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## POLL RESULTS

Do you support the suspension of the Saipan Zoning Law?

Yes	67
No	97
Undecided	6
No opinion	5

Sunday, August 09, 2009

## PANDEMIC ALERT STATUS PHASE 6

As of August 7, 2009

**Phase 1:** Viruses circulating among animals have yet to cause infections in humans.

**Phase 2:** An animal influenza virus is causing infection in humans, and is considered a potential pandemic threat.

**Phase 3:** An animal or human-animal influenza virus has caused sporadic cases or small clusters of disease in people, but has not resulted in human-to-human transmission sufficient to sustain community-level outbreaks.

**Phase 4:** Verified human-to-human transmission of an animal or human-animal influenza virus able to cause "community-level outbreaks."

**Phase 5:** A strong signal that a pandemic is imminent and that the time to finalize the organization, communication, and implementation of planned mitigation measures is short.

**Phase 6:** The pandemic phase, is an indication that a global pandemic is underway.

For more information about the H1N1 flu, contact DPH at 236-8797, Monday to Friday, from 8am to 5pm, 234-8950 during after hours, e-mail [cnmiphoc@gmail.com](mailto:cnmiphoc@gmail.com), or visit [www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/](http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/).

Source: CNMI Department of Public Health, World Health Organization

## INSIDE

### Coldest Summer

What San Francisco lacks in warmth even during most summer days, it makes up for in the warmth and friendliness of its people and, to some extent, the visitors who are charmed by the city.

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Impressive turnout at GOP rally. **PAGE 2**  
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# Ray of hope for guest workers

Rahall lauds 'powerful testimony' at assembly; Christensen speaks of 'secured status'



HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Visiting Rep. Nick J. Rahall II (D-WV), left, chairman of the powerful U.S. House Committee on Natural Resources, addresses a large crowd of mostly foreign workers and their U.S. citizen children at the Garapan Fishing Base, while Rep. Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (D-MP), center, and Rep. Donna M. Christensen (D-USVI) applaud.

## But some remain cautious

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**  
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REPORTER

A number of nonresident workers who attended yesterday's gathering at the Garapan Fishing Base remain guarded about their future despite the assurances made during the event by six U.S. congressional delegates led by U.S. House Committee on Natural Resources chairman Rep. Nick J. Rahall II (D-WV).

Eugene Pascual told *Saipan Tribune* that for the past 15 years, she has only one hope and that is to get better status so she can be with her child all the time.

Yesterday's assembly was the first attended by Pascual, who admitted that despite all the news about federalization, she has yet to get the exact picture of what will happen just a few months from now.

See **BUT** on Page 4



HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Foreign workers, along with their U.S. citizen children, hold hands as they sing Diana Ross' "If we hold on together" to demonstrate their unity in their call for a better immigration status.

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**  
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REPORTER

At least a thousand individuals gathered yesterday for a show of unity in their quest for improved immigration status for long-term guest workers and other members of the community, with no less than the chairman of the powerful U.S. House Committee on Natural Resources, Rep. Nick Rahall II (D-WV), Rep. Donna M. Christensen (D-USVI), and the CNMI's first nonvoting delegate to the U.S. Congress, Rep. Gregorio "Kilili" C. Sablan (D-MP), in the audience.

See **RAY** on Page 4

## US govt to file separate civil case to get Tim's boat

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
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REPORTER

The U.S. government will file a separate civil case in seeking forfeiture of former lieutenant governor Timothy P. Villagomez's boat, according to assistant U.S. attorney Eric O'Malley.



Villagomez

See **US GOVT** on Page 4

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## Local

### Impressive turnout at GOP rally

By MONETH G. DEPOSA  
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REPORTER

An estimated 3,000 people attended the CNMI Republican Party's kickoff rally last Saturday at the Susupe Civic Center.

Former governor Juan N. Babauta, who lost to eventual GOP standard bearer Heinz Hofschneider in the primary, served as the event's keynote speaker.

Babauta, in his message to the crowd, asked attendees to vote for the full GOP slate believing that the party can do the necessary changes for the Commonwealth if its allowed to work as a team.

He emphasized that education and federal relations are the keys to build the new foundation that will prepare and develop the necessary commonwealth workforce.

Prior to the 11am assembly, party acting president Dave Attao said about 700 vehicles joined the group in its morning motorcade that started from various precinct offices.

Attao, who described the former governor as a diehard fan of education, said Babauta's participation in the assembly demon-



MONETH G. DEPOSA

strated the genuine support and strong organization of the local GOP party in the CNMI. He disclosed that before the election, GOP hopes to organize two major events to keep the party momentum going. As they approach the election, various campaign strategies and methodologies were also being planned.

Hofschneider, for his part, admitted that Saturday's turnout exceeded his expectations.

"It's beyond my expecta-

tion...and I am very happy that the good Lord blessed us with a good weather for the people to come out. I can say that this is a very good start for the Republicans," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

The party's gubernatorial standard bearer said he was saddened upon learning that over a thousand people have left the islands in the last four years as a result of declining economy.

GOP, he said, has the vision, the plans, and the experience to deal with the present problems in the economy.

In his personal encounters with Saturday's attendees, Hofschneider disclosed that nine out of 10 have expressed similar concerns.

"Nine out of 10 that I ran across here today said they are tired of empty promises and their lives are getting worse. They're asking what opportunities lay ahead of them and generally they're speaking about the economy. These people are one in saying their lives are harder today than four years ago!" he said.

Hofschneider said it is their party's vision to "restore the

See **IMPRESSIVE** on Next Page



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## Fitch downgrades CPA bond rating to B+

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**  
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REPORTER

Fitch Ratings downgraded the Commonwealth Ports Authority general obligation bond to B+, according to the latest data presented by the CPA to the board of directors.

Ports authority executive director Efrain F. Camacho defined B+ as a mark that indicated "risk" and needs significant improvement to avert more severe assessment.

Camacho cited as factors the many questionable administrative costs uncovered by the federal granting agencies which also questions the "credibility and capability" of the ports authority.

"The latest bond rating of B+

means there's a risk involved as far as values are concerned," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

Camacho disclosed that based on the unaudited financial report, CPA failed to meet the bond indenture agreements for both airport and seaport which require a debt service ratio of 1.25 for both fiscal years 2007 and 2008.

For the seaport division, the ratio was 1.00 while the airport division showed a negative .77

The combined seaport and airport data also showed an operating loss of \$9.1 million last fiscal year.

However, based on the preliminary data for fiscal year 2009, the agency is meeting the standard.

Fiscal year 2009 started in October 2008 through September 30, this year.

In fact, he said performance analysis indicated that CPA is already at 1.25 debt service ratio at present though the records are unaudited.

Camacho said the present "good standing" is attributed to the implementation of new tariff rates and other reforms that improve the financial performance of the agency.

It was last year when the administration declared a state of emergency at CPA due to a technical default on its indenture agreements. Operation of CPA was then transferred to the administration which also dissolved the board of directors.

During the emergency declaration, the management had

enforced a 90-percent increase in tariff rates in the seaports and implemented a 10-12 percent hike in airport fees.

The airport incentive program was also terminated to help address the financial distress.

Camacho said CPA is fortu-

nate to have the commitment of its signatory airlines that made significant impact to the indenture problems.

## IMPRESSIVE

From Page 2

government back to serving the people."

This week he said the party will go back in knocking at the doors of people who are still "undecided" on the election.

"We are going to start knocking on doors again, articulating our visions and plans to those people who are still undecided and making sure that they realize that another four years of hardship is in their hands... and we will inform them that we're offering an opportunity to change the direction of the CNMI," he added.

Hofschneider said he was also elated on seeing that majority of Juan Babauta and Galvin Deleon Guerrero's supporters were present in the event.

The foods, drinks, and entertainment were provided during the celebration, he added, were a collaborative effort of the candidates and their precinct clubs.

The candidate for lieutenant governor Arnold I. Palacios, for his part, said the turnout was overwhelming and serves as a testament to the "strength" of the local party.

"We're very happy with today's turnout. This is evidence that GOP is fully united and has the strength to carry all the visions for our people," he told *Saipan Tribune*, adding that majority of their supporters are in the grassroots level who truly felt the sacrifices and hardships.

Palacios said as he mingled with people, opportunities for employment have been the basic question raised.

"They want change...and what we're offering is better governance for our people," he added.

Other speakers in the event included Sen. Paul Manglona, Tom Tebuteb, Frank Borja, Rep. Dave Apatang, and Pedro Castro.

All GOP candidates were also officially introduced and were given each the floor to present their platforms to the people.

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## RAY

From Page 1

Rahall, Christensen, and Sablan are three of the six congressional delegates who arrived here on Saturday to listen to the concerns of CNMI government officials, the business community, foreign workers, and other sectors about the CNMI's transition to federal immigration on Nov. 28.

"What I've heard here today has been some powerful testimony," Rahall told the crowd which broke into applause.

Later, he said, "It's a lot more powerful here to hear than in a committee room in Washington, D.C.... Here, it really came home to me and I appreciate what I've heard today. And I appreciate each of you for being here, and most importantly, I appreciate each of you for sending Gregorio Kilili Sablan to the Congress of the United States."

Unlike previous assemblies of guest workers, the participants yesterday did not carry any banner or streamer at the Garapan Fishing Base.

Besides Rahall, Sablan, and Christensen, also currently visiting Saipan are Rep. Eni Faleomavaega (D-AS), Rep. Madeleine Z. Bordallo (D-GU), and ranking member Rep. Henry Brown (R-SC).

In the days ahead, other federal officials will also be visiting Saipan, including staffers of the U.S. Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee led by Allen Stayman. Also visiting will be Tony Babauta, who was appointed as assistant secretary of the Interior for Insular Affairs.

## Frustration

Rahall, in his impromptu speech, said as chairman of the U.S. House Committee on Natural Resources, and every member, take seriously their "responsibility to the territorial possessions of the United states," and "those constituencies that come within our purview."

He also recognized the frustration by members of the CNMI community, referring to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's yet-to-be released CNMI-only transitional guest worker program and foreign investor/student program with a little over a hundred days before federalization.

"I heard people (speak) from their hearts... And I heard some frustration and probably frustration very well put because oftentimes the government,

certainly our Department of Homeland Security do not move as quickly as we think they should and sometimes that delay gets to us as members of Congress as well," Rahall said.

When Rahall, Sablan, and Christensen were already seated in a shaded area in front of the makeshift stage, one of the program hosts, Eleanor Lose, also called on Rep. Tina Sablan (Ind-Saipan) to join the delegates.

Sablan thanked his fellow delegates for visiting the CNMI.

Christensen, in a brief interview with reporters before leaving the Garapan Fishing Base, said the committee still has some work to be done, "to make sure that the status of people who are here, the guest workers, are secured, and for that reason, I felt I needed to come back."

She was on Saipan two years ago for a field hearing on the federalization bill by the U.S. House Subcommittee on Insular Affairs, which she then chaired.

## 'Permanent residency'

Among those who shared their hope of a stable future for their families were 17-year-old Hazel Marie Doctor, a U.S. citizen whose parents have been guest workers in the CNMI for over 20 years, 14-year-old Julius Inocencio, a U.S. citizen with disability and born to foreign workers, and Moody Marie Binuya, a long-term foreign worker.

Like thousands of U.S. citizen children in the CNMI, Doctor and Inocencio said they fear being separated from their parents if they are unable to secure permits to remain in the CNMI under the federal transitional guest worker program which starts on Nov. 28.

"Relief—in the form of permanent status and pathway to citizenship—can only be provided by Congress," Doctor said. "This is our home. Our families belong here. We implore you to do right by our families and pass legislation to grant our parents permanent residency status and a pathway to citizenship."

Augustus Lose, president of the Coalition for Recognition, Equality and Advancement of American Minorities (CREAM), said "the fight is no longer with the local government; rather it is now one that can only be taken up in Washington, in the great halls of the U.S. Congress." He said CREAM supports the quest for improved immigration status.

Rose Cuison Villazor, an associate professor of law at the Hofstra Uni-

versity School of Law, also submitted a 14-page written statement to the congressional delegation. She said the U.S. Congress should seriously consider and ultimately pass legislation granting permanent residency to the CNMI's guest workers and their non-U.S. citizen family members, and thereby address the undemocratic consequences and humanitarian problems that are and have been associated with the CNMI's guest worker program.

## Critical juncture in CNMI history

The Rahall congressional delegation's arrival comes at a critical moment for the CNMI, which will be under transition to a federal immigration system by Nov. 28.

The CNMI economy has also been in a downward trend especially now that the once almighty garment industry is gone and the remaining industry—tourism—is on continuous decline.

The Chinese and Russian tourism markets, which the CNMI has also relied on for the past years, is expected to be almost wiped out when federalization comes because the joint Guam-CNMI visa waiver program excludes these countries.

And with only months before this critical juncture in the Commonwealth's history, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security has yet to issue regulations that will govern the CNMI-only transitional worker program and the foreign investor and foreign student program.

Rep. Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (D-MP) said the imminent federalization of the CNMI immigration system has cast a cloud of uncertainty over the islands' future.

"Businesses and investors cannot make informed decisions, and thousands of individuals and families, who have made these islands home and whose lives are part of the fabric of our community, are in fear of separation."

Sablan said fortunately Rahall and the congressional delegation "are here to listen."

"Under Mr. Rahall's leadership, we will meet with people from all parts of our society—our elected officials, business people, U.S. citizens and foreigners alike—whose unity is important in making a stronger Commonwealth. I hope the congressional delegation will take away with them a stronger sense of mission to help our Commonwealth,"

said Sablan in a statement upon his arrival.

Sablan accompanied the Rahall delegation which first visited American Samoa, then Palau, before flying out to Saipan. From here, they will visit Guam mainly to discuss the military buildup there.

"And I am sure that the congressional delegation will depart with an appreciation for our beautiful islands and our people's warm hospitality," said Sablan.

## Full schedule

About an hour after their arrival on Saturday, the congressional delegation met with the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands at the Hyatt Regency Saipan. Hotels have been asking for the inclusion of the Chinese and Russian tourists from the joint Guam-CNMI visa waiver program, citing millions in losses if they stop coming here due to the added burden of securing a U.S. visa first.

Rep. Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan's family hosted an island-style dinner for the delegation after their meeting with HANMI.

Yesterday morning, the visiting U.S. lawmakers toured major tourist spots.

In the afternoon, three of them—Rahall, Sablan, and Christensen—met with concerned citizens mostly guest workers assembled at the Garapan Fishing Base.

From there, they proceeded to the American Memorial Park for a wreath-laying, followed by a dinner reception hosted by Gov. Benigno R. Fitial.

This morning, the delegation will have breakfast with members of the 16th CNMI Legislature. Senate Pres. Pete P. Reyes (R-Saipan), during a session on Friday, reminded senators of the breakfast meeting.

This will be followed by the Rahall delegation's courtesy call on Fitial in the governor's conference room on Capital Hill at 9:30am. After 30 minutes, the CNMI mayors will be joining the visitors and Fitial.

The Rahall delegation will also be meeting with federal officials in the governor's conference room. Among them will be those from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

At 12 noon, the congressional delegation will be meeting with the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, the largest business organization in the CNMI.

The Chamber, along with HANMI,

has long been pressing the federal government to include the Chinese and Russian markets in the visa waiver program, citing millions in further losses to the economy if these two markets are gone. Japan and Korea, the CNMI's primary and secondary markets, respectively, have seen a drop in arrivals due to their own economic woes.

At 1pm, the congressional delegation will have a 20-minute press conference, before heading out to the airport for Guam for a three-day visit that will mainly tackle the military buildup there.

## Rainy Saturday arrival

Rahall and the rest of the congressional delegation were transported from Palau to Saipan by a military plane that touched down at the international airport at 5pm on Saturday, delayed by about 30 minutes.

Staffers at the office of Rep. Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan led by chief of staff Robert Schwalbach, along with Sablan's wife Andrea and local law enforcement officers, were on hand to welcome the delegation.

The visiting U.S. lawmakers had to use yellow umbrellas provided by Hyatt Regency Saipan where they are billeted, because of the light rain that greeted them on the tarmac.

Rahall, in green shirt, was the first one to get off the plane, followed by Sablan in blue and white polo and carrying a backpack, waving to the people below.

Brown, in white polo, got out of the military plane third. Following him were Christensen, Faleomavaega, and Bordallo.

This is the first time that Rahall and Brown have been to Saipan, while the others have been here several times. Despite the rainy Saturday arrival, the dignitaries were all smiles as they got off the plane.

Capt. Pete Deleon Guerrero, commander of the CNMI Explosives Response Team, said eight traffic officers and 12 detectives were part of the security detail for the visiting lawmakers.

All vehicles entering the tarmac were inspected for explosives using a detection gadget and trained dog or K9.

Three members of the local print media came to take photos of the congressional delegation's arrival. The lawmakers were immediately hoisted to the waiting bus that took them to Hyatt Regency Saipan where they will be staying until today.

## BUT

From Page 1

"I am still clueless about what will really happen...but [after] hearing today's speakers [from the U.S.] I was given a little hope...and I will continue to hold on," she said.

A Bangladeshi who has been working on Saipan for 10 years, along with his friends, admitted that he was not fully satisfied on what he heard from the visiting speakers.

"Up to this time...the plans for us [nonresidents] are not clear. We appreciate their visit but their words are still confusing for us," he said.

Longtime Filipino worker Benjamin Viana, 48, said for now he has no choice but to keep praying for a "miracle" from U.S. officials.

"I've been working here since 1988 and I think they must give us some consideration and provide us the opportunity to grow and live here. Permanent status request has been on the table for many years and I just hope that this is the right timing to wait for positive response," he said.

A group of Thais, who came to the island as garment factory workers about 10 years ago, said that despite difficulty in understanding the "full concept" of assemblies, they keep on showing support.

"Because we understand that we're fighting for one purpose and that is unlimited stay here on island," Prathuan Intamat, 47, told *Saipan Tribune*.

Now working as waitress at a restaurant, Intamat said she is still lucky to have a job in these difficult times.

Unlike her friend, 44-year-old Uchada Insee said employment has been very difficult to find nowadays.

A number of Nepalese families were also present yesterday at the gathering and they described the event as something which has given them strength.

Karma Itani, 30, has U.S. citizen children and said he wants to continue to take care of them.

"How can I do that? How can I promise them the security they need if us, their parents, have only limited time to stay here? We're hoping the officials will hear our plight... because we're asking better status so [we] can be with our children and our families all the time," he said.

Raju Timilsina, 35, echoed the sentiments of his fellow Nepalese, many of whom are working for security agencies and hotel companies on island.

Also notable in yesterday's occasion was the presence of a number of U.S. citizen children of nonresident workers like Hazel Doctor.

Doctor is a senior of Mount Carmel School and testified before visiting of-

ficials the importance of keeping families together.

Her mother, Tina Doctor, said that better status for her and her husband would be greatly appreciated by her children.

The young Doctor said she's worried on the possible consequences if her parents will not be provided improved status come November.

She said she will stop pursuing studies on island and join her parents in the Philippines if they are forced to leave.

Charlotte Santos, 18, also one of the kids of nonresident workers, expressed frustration on the delayed response of authorities on the plight of their parents in the CNMI.

## US GOVT

From Page 1

In an interview, O'Malley said the indictment itself filed against Villagomez, his sister, Joaquina V. Santos, and

her husband, former Commerce Secretary James A. Santos, put the other parties on notice that they intend to seek forfeiture of the boat.

O'Malley said since he did not name the specific name of the boat, they need to go through a separate civil proceed-

ing to forfeit the boat "Dr. V."

Prior to last Wednesday's sentencing of Villagomez and the Santos couple, O'Malley in court papers notified the U.S. District Court for the NMI that during the sentencing the U.S. government will move for a final order of for-

feiture of a boat registered to the former lieutenant governor.

O'Malley described the boat as a 1994 Yamaha 31' Boat, Hull No. 0811087, registered to Villagomez under the name "Dr. V."

The prosecutor said the boat "was

either involved in the offense or was a traceable proceed of the crime."

But during the sentencing, O'Malley did not mention any forfeiture or the boat.

O'Malley explained that the rea-

See US GOVT on Next Page



## Veterans affairs officials here for outreach benefits

By **NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.**  
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REPORTER

Officials from the Federal Department of Veterans Affairs will be visiting the CNMI including Saipan, Rota, and Tinian, this week to discuss benefits relating to the outreach program.

Danielle Gualtieri the VA's public contact and outreach specialist for Guam and the CNMI will be here from Aug. 10-14.

Also from the federal VA office will be Ray Chang to discuss the home loan and adaptive housing program on Aug. 12.

The two officials will also be entertaining questions and assist

the veterans about their claims.

The briefing scheduled on Rota will take place at the mayor's office conference room from 8am to 4pm on Aug. 10-11.

The briefing on Saipan will be from 8am to 4pm at the Office of the Military/Veterans Affairs in Capital Hill Building 1364 on Aug. 12-13.

The Tinian briefing is set at 8am-4pm at the mayor's office on Aug. 14.

Ruth Coleman, Military Veterans Affairs Office executive officer, also announced that the federal government has already hired an officer for the VA clinic for the CNMI, Dr. Kendall

Gladdening.

Gladdening is now staying temporarily at Dr. Norma Ada's Clinic, who is with the Medical Association of the Pacific.

Coleman said that the VA clinic will be opened by the end of this year.

In the meantime, all army veterans who needs assistance may visit Dr. Gladdening at Dr. Ada's Clinic.

### Air Force recruiter on Saipan

Msgt Dayne C. Thomas will be on Saipan on Aug. 12-13 to discuss some of the best opportunities the U.S. Air Force has to offer.

Thomas will also be discussing how citizens of the CNMI could join the AF service.

Interested men and women who meet the qualification age

of 17-27 would be able to see Thomas at the Office of Military/Veterans Affairs from 12 noon until 3pm Wednesday and

Thursday.

Applicants must bring their high school diploma. They must not have medical problems and

be of good moral character.

For more details, call Ruth Coleman at the Office of Military/Veterans Affairs at 664-2650.

## US GOVT

From Page 4

son why there was no mention about the boat because of their intent to file a separate civil forfeiture case.

O'Malley is expected to file the forfeiture case anytime soon.

In filing the forfeiture, he said, the connection that that should be made is that the property that is the subject of forfeiture is directly traceable to proceeds of the crime.

"In this case the one piece of property that we know and feel comfortable about tracing as proceeds of the crime is the boat," the prosecutor said.

The U.S. government's theory was that Villagomez's efforts to push the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. into entering the contract with Blue Pacific was repayment for a loan to buy a boat.

Villagomez's sister, Joaquina V. Santos, owns Blue Pacific which was licensed to engage in the business of "general retail merchandising."

Former CUC executive director Anthony Guerrero testified that Villagomez admitted to borrowing between \$45,000 to \$60,000 from Joaquina Santos and James Santos to purchase a boat named "Dr. V."

The prosecution presented to the court during the trial a check dated Oct. 31, 2006 for \$50,000 that was drawn upon Islas Micronesia Sales' bank account. The check was signed by Islas' owner James Santos and was made payable to Villagomez.

The defense, however, asserted that there was nothing wrong for a sister helping his brother borrow money.

Last April 25, the federal jurors rendered a guilty verdict to Villagomez and the Santos couple of all charges relating to a scheme to defraud CUC through needless purchases of a de-scaling chemical with a brand called Rydlyme.

Villagomez was sentenced to seven years and three months in prison. The Santos couple were sentenced to six years and six months in prison each for their involvement in the scheme.

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## Convicted Pelisamen seeks continued release

Former estate administrator Luis Kaipat Pelisamen has asked the federal court for his continued release on bail pending his sentencing or appeal.

Attorney Douglas Cushnie, counsel for Pelisamen, said Pelisamen intends to testify that he has made no threats against his brother, William Kaipat.

Pelisamen did not take action to have Kaipat fired from his job

with the food stamp program, said Cushnie in opposition to the U.S. government's motion to revoke the pre-sentence release of Pelisamen.

The U.S. government charged Pelisamen and his former counsel, Joseph Arriola, with wire fraud and money laundering.

According to the indictment, Arriola and Pelisamen transferred funds belonging to the

Rita Kaipat estate from the Bank of Guam to the Bank of Hawaii on Nov. 28, 2005, thereby causing communications by wire between Saipan and Hawaii. Pelisamen used to be the administrator of Rita Kaipat estate. His lawyer was Arriola.

Last May, a hung jury prompted the court to declare a mistrial in the case against Pelisamen.

But during a new trial last

month, Pelisamen was found guilty of money laundering and wire fraud charges.

The court set the sentencing of Pelisamen for Sept. 29, 2009.

The prosecution recently filed a motion to revoke Pelisamen's pre-sentence release upon assertion by William Kaipat that "he felt threatened by Pelisamen."

In opposition to the motion, Cushnie said Kaipat did not claim that he was threatened with harm and did not claim that he was physically harmed

by the defendant.

Cushnie said Pelisamen has made no attempt to even contact Kaipat.

"No, it is because of a subjective feeling on the part of Kaipat of being somehow threatened. Basically, what is happening here is that Kaipat is managing to use the U.S. Attorney's Office as a guard to skewer his brother," the lawyer said.

He said the U.S. government cannot show and has not attempted to show that Pelisamen

has failed to appear for every court hearing.

The prosecution, Cushnie said, cannot show that the defendant is a flight risk and a danger to anyone in the community.

Cushnie said the prosecution cannot show that Pelisamen has even attempted to contact Kaipat or any other person associated with the trial of this case.

The court set a hearing for the motion to revoke defendant's pre-trial release for Sept. 2, 2009 at 8:30am. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**



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## Another 1,000 lbs of WWII ordnance detonated

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
haidee\_eugenio@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Another 1,000 lbs. of unexploded World War II ordnance were detonated on Friday as part of a federal-funded project to remove and dispose of hazardous materials recovered from a Marpi area.

Capt. Pete Leon Guerrero, commander of the CNMI Explosive Response Team or XRT, said Friday's detonation brings to over 4,000 lbs. the total explosive weight of detonated war explosives since the Marpi land-clearing project began early this year.

Most of the explosives

were projectiles, while the rest were hand grenades and mortars, he added.

As standard procedure, a small volume of explosives was detonated for the "bird shot," meant to scare away and therefore protect the birds from the major detonation in the area about a mile north of the Marpi landfill.

Then came the major detonation which set off a thunderclap that rebounded along the Laderan Lagoon Cliff's walls and sending a huge cloud of smoke into the still air. The sight and sound awed the crowd that gathered at Suicide Cliff to witness the detonation.

Three representatives from the U.S. Navy Explosive Ordnance Disposal Detachment Marianas led the detonation, in coordination with the XRT, the Department of Public Safety, the Emergency Management Office, and Ampro.

DPS closed off the Marpi area from 12 noon to 3pm on Friday for the safety of residents and tourists while the detonation was ongoing.

The Department of Public Lands received funding grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to clean up a Marpi area of war ordnance.

DPL contracted Ampro for the retrieval of these explosives from an area which was used by the U.S. military immediately after the capture of Saipan during World War II. The site was used to store thousands of tons of ordnance for the impending invasion of the Japanese mainland.

## Overstaying tourist from Burma agrees on deportation

An overstaying tourist from the Republic of Burma has agreed to be deported instead of challenging her immigration status in court.

Superior Court Associate Judge David Wiseman ordered that any passport in the custody of the court shall be released to the Attorney General's Investigation Unit for purposes of repatriation of Shwe Zin Win.

According to court documents, Win signed an agreement with the Division of Immigration for her deportation rather than proceeding with a hearing to show cause why she should not be deported from the CNMI.

Win did not dispute that she is a national of the Republic of Burma and a deportable alien.

The respondent entered the Commonwealth on March 3, 2009 as a tourist on a 30-day entry permit.

Win's visitor's entry permit expired on April 2, 2009. She stipulated that she has no legal right to remain in the CNMI.

Court papers showed that Win, through her attorney, recently called Immigration counsel, assistant attorney general Kathleen Busenkell, about her overstaying status. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**

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# Angello tops Emmanuel College graduates

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**  
moneth\_deposa@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Leonora Angello emerged as the outstanding graduate of Emmanuel College during the school's second commencement exercise last Friday, where 13 individuals were conferred certificates and recognitions for fulfilling the 11-month course for practical nurses.

Before over a hundred guests and spectators, Angello shared her sacrifices and rewarding experiences prior to achieving her goal.

"To become a nurse is my lifelong dream. In order to accomplish this goal, it took a lot of sacrifices and support of my family and friends...and most importantly, the confidence in myself that I can fulfill it," she said.

Angello, who has a son, described Friday's event as a celebration of the completion of a challenging and rewarding career for all 13 individuals, who will be added to the 20 successful graduates of the institution last year.

"It wasn't that long ago when we were neophytes in this program and feeling great that we are entering a rewarding profession that is...the medical career. This is an opportunity for us to

help others in time of need, and a chance to expand our knowledge," she said, adding that assistance of their loved ones was also a key to their success.

She lauded the continuous support of the Commonwealth to the institution, which first introduced the program and provides the opportunity for island students to grow and enrich their capabilities and skills.

Angello is now preparing to take the next step of her nursing dream: to pass the national licensure examination that will test her ability to serve U.S.-accredited hospitals.

Emmanuel College also conferred awards to Vicente Sablan Jr., second honor; and Lilia Carpio, third honor.

Clinical proficiency awardees included Felimar Almogela, Lilia Carpio, and Vicente Sablan Jr.

In his message to the graduates and guests, keynote speaker Gov. Benigno R. Fitial commended Emmanuel College for making the dreams of many island students come true.

"For many years, we have been hearing political leaders talk about diversifying our economy or establishing new industries. These new industries would help create jobs. But for

the most part, all we have heard was just a lot of talk or empty rhetoric...we did not see tangible results or concrete steps leading to the creation of new business or new industries. But today, we are here again witness the successful graduation of Emmanuel College nursing students...I am very proud to join all of you in celebrating not only the successful completion of a program of study for many students, but the successful establishment of this educational institution," he told the crowd that gathered at Saipan World Resort.

The governor cited that Emmanuel College represents the CNMI's emerging education industry—a real industry for the islands and a viable industry with great promise and potential.



MONETH G. DEPOSA

Gov. Benigno Fitial and Lt. Gov. Eloy Inos, center back, pose with the second batch of Emmanuel College graduates during the school's commencement exercise last Friday at Saipan World Resort. Also in photo are the institution's officials and faculty.

Fitial specifically thanked the institution's president, California-based Sedy Demesa, and the school's founders.

"The story continued with the

first graduating class last year...and here we are again, with another graduating class, establishing a tradition of educational excellence for the nursing pro-

fession in the CNMI," he said, extending his personal congratulations to the institution's vice president Ramon Dizon and board member Eli Arago.

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## NOTICE OF AUCTION

The Commonwealth Development Authority will auction off various furniture and equipments from the Sunset Villa Hotel. A list of properties for auction may be obtained at CDA's Offices in Saipan and Rota.

The auction shall be subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. The items are being sold **"AS IS"** and **"WHERE IS"**;
2. The items are being sold **WITHOUT WARRANTY** of any type;
3. The public auction will be held at **SUNSET VILLA HOTEL, SONTON, ROTA** on **Friday, August 14, 2009 at 10:00 a.m.**;
4. The Buyer at auction will be responsible for removing the items at the day of sale;
5. Terms of the sale are cash, credit card or certified check; and
6. CDA reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to withdraw this notice and postpone the sale from time to time.

Full payment of the bid amount is required before the property can be removed from the CDA Office. Payment must be received before end of business day, 4:30 p.m. Friday, August 14, 2009. Failure to make full payment will cause award to be null and void and the next highest bid will be considered.

Inspection of the properties is recommended and may be arranged with Ms. Nanette E. Atalig any time between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on weekdays except holidays.

/S/ **MANUEL A. SABLAN**  
Executive Director

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# Coast Guard: Saipan ports not ready against terrorist attack

Saipan ports are not ready to take the proper action during a terrorist attack, according to a port security specialist and lead exercise planner of the United States Coast GuardSector Guam.

Hassan O. Rosell, MHLS, JD, of the USCG contingency planning and force readiness unit, said that the recent bomb threat on Tinian Port illustrates the potential for incidents in all ports that could require a rapid yet safe evacuation of employees, passengers and recreational users in the port.

“That’s why this exercise is important,” said Rosell referring

to the daylong Port Evacuation Table Top Exercise held at the Hyatt Regency Saipan Friday.

The focus of the exercise was about terror attacks as well as any types of man-made and natural disasters.

The objective is to be able to get port stakeholders into the picture.

“The exercise is how to get the people and the employees safely out of the commercial port of Saipan,” he said.

The tentative goal is to have a full-scale real demonstration of an exercise in two years.

“This means we would be

doing the actual demonstration within two years but we would be validating the plan this year by having a command post exercise,” Rosell stressed.

Rosell recalled that they have conducted Guam/Saipan Top Officials Four Exercises in 2007.

“That was the nation’s largest anti-terrorism exercise. Since it is discovered that Saipan did not have an effective simulation exercise there is a need to test the port and evacuate the people there through such exercises,” he said.

The tabletop exercise was conducted by the USCG Guam.

CNMI is a part of that sector.

Exercise support team led by Jesse Rangel, from California arrived to assist the participants.

Marine Safety Detachment commander on Saipan could not attend the exercise due to a flu.

Resource persons included Greg Peterson (Pacific Area security specialists), Scott Mitchell (Pacific Region Homeland Security Advisor), Commonwelath Port Director Marry Ann Lizama, H.S. Director Patrick Tenorio, CNMI Emergency Management Office Director Jack Muna, and Acting Port Police Chief Jordon Kosam.

“We are here to clarify roles, actions and responsibilities in the determination to evacuate the port during the exercises,” Rosell said. *(Nazario Rodriguez Jr.)*



AUGUST 10, 1999

## Widen OIA probe

A California legislator has slammed the Office of Insular Affairs for using labor and immigration issues in the Northern Marianas to launch what he calls “coordinated political assault” against the U.S. House leadership as well as GOP rank and file members in Congress. Rep. John T. Doolittle (R-California) urged the House Resources Committee to widen its ongoing investigation on OIA officials, who allegedly used government time and resources to seek damaging information against GOP lawmakers. “Many of us who have questioned OIA’s tactics in the past no longer have any reason to trust either its integrity or impartiality,” he said in a letter addressed to his Republican colleagues in the Congress.

## ‘Ice’ on the rise again—Villagomez

Public Health Secretary Joseph Kevin Villagomez yesterday warned the community that the sale of methamphetamine hydrochloride or “ice” is on the rise again. Although there is no available data yet from the Department of Public Health to prove the growing addiction to “ice”, Villagomez said he was approached by former patients who want to seek medical treatment again. “It has become easy to obtain ice again. The CNMI’s public enemy number one is back,” he said.

AUGUST 10, 2000

## FBI steps into murder probe

The Federal Bureau of Investigation has stepped into the Monday murder incident in Chalan Piao to assist local authorities in hunting down the killers of Hong Kong Chinese Kim Fai Tse, according to Maj. R.B. Camacho, assistant chief of police operations.FBI has joined the investigation following reports linking the dreaded Hong Kong Triad to the slaying of Mr. Tse at BBQ Restaurant in the early morning of Aug. 7. The Department of Public Safety has expressed concern on information about the reported increase of international crimes committed in the Commonwealth.

## DLNR relaxes ban on FSM food exports

The Department of Lands and Natural Resources has issued anew an emergency order of quarantine which now allows entry of all fish, shellfish and crustaceans that originate from the Federated States of Micronesia. But under the new order, these food items will only be allowed into the Northern Marianas provided they are frozen in an ice chest or cooler packed with ice from the port of embarkation. DLNR acting Secretary Eugene A. Santos, however, underscored the need to exercise utmost care in granting CNMI entry to the shipments coming in from FSM especially on crustaceans such as lobsters and crabs.

AUGUST 10 2001

## SAT9 results show significant improvements in 6 areas

Public school students in the Northern Marianas have shown significant improvements in their academic performance during the last three years, a government report disclosed. The Public School System yesterday reported a consistent gain of three to seven percentile in almost all classroom subjects for the last three years that it has administered the Stanford Achievement Test 9th edition. Based on the State Report-SAT9 for 2001, the overall performance of students who took the test in the last three years have indicated improvements in several aspects.

## OPA reports few protests on government contracts

Of the 26,610 contracts, purchase orders and change orders that were processed by the Division of Procurement and Supply from 1999 up to August 1 this year, only 35 were met with protests by losing bidders. At the same time, of all the procurement transactions that P&S processed during the period under study-almost three fiscal years-only 22 exceeded the \$1 million benchmark. Of these, only four were protested. These were the results of the study conducted by the Office of the Public Auditor in relation to concerns raised by some lawmakers over the government’s procurement process.

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY**  
**CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**INVITATION TO BID**  
**ITB09-DPH-123 (A-J)**

SUBMISSION / OPENING DATE: AUGUST 19, 2009 • TIME: 10:00 A.M.

**“PURCHASE OF 18-25 LAPTOPS, 2-4 LAPTOPS, 1-2 LAPTOPS, 5-7 DESKTOP COMPUTERS, 1 DESKTOP COMPUTER, 1 MONITOR, 2-4 PROJECTORS, 1-2 COPIER/FAX/SCANNER, 1 SCANNER AND 1 DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT/ARCHIVING SOFTWARE FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH”**

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

**THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE, BECAUSE ITS USE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT.**

/s/ **JOSEPH K.P. VILLAGOMEZ**  
SECRETARY OF HEALTH

/s/ **HERMAN S. SABLAN**  
Director, P&S

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY**  
**CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**INVITATION TO BID**  
**ITB09-DPH-124 CIF-SAIPAN FOB: CHC/MSO**

BID SUBMISSION: AUGUST 18, 2009 • TIME: 10:00 A.M.  
BID OPENING: AUGUST 18, 2009 • TIME: 10:30 A.M.

**“PURCHASE OF ELEVEN (11) PORTABLE GENERATORS 17,500 WATTS CAPACITY AND TRANSFER KITS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH”**

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

**THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE, BECAUSE ITS USE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT.**

/s/ **JOSEPH K.P. VILLAGOMEZ**  
SECRETARY OF HEALTH

/s/ **HERMAN S. SABLAN**  
Director, P&S

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COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

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**4th Quarterly Council on Developmental Disabilities Board Meeting**

Attention General Public:

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 12, the CNMI Council on Developmental Disabilities under Chairperson Marissa Guerrero is hereby calling for the Fourth Quarterly Meeting to take place on August 12, 2009 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Saipan at the Council on Developmental Disabilities Conference Room. The meeting is called based upon the CNMI Council on Developmental Disabilities Bylaws (dated January 31, 2003).

Agenda

- Call to Order
- Roll Call
- Establishment of Order
- Adoption of Agenda
- Adoption of Minutes – July 6, 2009
- Committee Reports
  - HR Committee
  - Call-A-Ride Committee Status Report
  - Membership Committee Report
  - Expiration of Members
- Reports
  - Fiscal Officer
  - Family 360 Updates/Report
  - FS 360 Program Coordinator/System Navigator
  - AT Program Coordinator
- Old Business
  - Review and Adoption of By-Laws
  - Council Training in September
- New Business
  - State Plan 2011
- Open Discussion
- Next meeting
- Adjournment

In accordance to the American with Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals who wish to attend this meeting and require special accommodations are requested to call the Council 3 days in advance at 664-7000. The Public is welcome to submit written or oral comments regarding the agenda above.

/S/ Marissa Guerrero, Chairperson

**COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY**

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT  
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055  
Phone: (670) 237-6500 Fax: (670) 234-5962  
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**SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT**  
**PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE SERVICES FOR THE LOADING BRIDGES**  
**PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-004-09**

**2nd AMENDED REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting sealed proposals for Preventive Maintenance of the Loading Bridges at the Saipan International Airport on the Island of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The scope of work entails providing preventive maintenance services for four (4) loading bridges. The detailed scope of work will be available at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building on Friday, June 26, 2009. Proposers must submit all required documents listed in the scope of work. All responses to this RFP shall also take into account any and all taxes that will be charged to the proposer awarded the contract for the project, including excise tax.

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: “Proposal for the Preventive Maintenance of the Loading Bridges at the Saipan International Airport”. One original and four (4) copies of the proposal must be submitted no later than **4:30 P.M. LOCAL TIME, FRIDAY, AUGUST 14, 2009**, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport.

Each proposal shall be accompanied by a proposal bond issued by a CPA approved surety company, a certified check, or a cashier’s check in the amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the total proposal amount. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority. Copies of approved surety companies and the bid bond form may be obtained with the scope of work at the office of the Executive Director on July 22, 2009.

Contractor will be required to obtain insurance policies based on CPA’s requirements. These requirements apply to contracts where the Consultant provides designated professional services to the Authority; i.e. appraisers, architects, equipment maintenance, messengers, construction managers, etc. and the total contract price is less than \$250,000. Copies of the insurance requirements may be obtained with the scope of work at the office of the Executive Director on July 22, 2009.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA’s best interest.

All proposals shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ **MR. EFRAIN F. CAMACHO, P.E.**  
Executive Director/Contracting Officer

Date: August 7, 2009

**COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY**

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT  
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055  
Phone: (670) 237-6500 Fax: (670) 234-5962  
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**General Maintenance/Improvements to Lighting Fixtures**  
**Saipan Commercial Port**  
**CPA Project No. CPA-SS-003-09**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting sealed proposals for the general maintenance/improvements to 117 light fixtures on thirteen (13) light poles, located along the ocean front of the dock at Saipan Seaport.

A detailed scope of work is available at the office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport. The proposals shall include the following:

- Letter of Interest;
- Project timeframe;
- Available resources to accomplish project;
- Cost Proposal (in itemized scope of work format);
- Valid CNMI Business License; and
- Proof of insurance.

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: **“Proposal for the General Maintenance/Improvements to Lighting Fixtures at the Saipan Commercial Port”**. The proposal must be submitted no later than **Monday, August 24, 2009, 4:30 p.m.**, to the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd Floor Arrival Building, at the Saipan International Airport.

Each proposal shall be accompanied by a bid bond issued by a CPA approved surety company, a certified check, or a cashier’s check in the amount no less than ten percent (10%) of the total proposal amount. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations Section 3.6. CPA reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA’s best interest.

All proposals shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ **MR. EFRAIN F. CAMACHO, P.E.**  
Executive Director/Contracting Officer

Date: August 6, 2009



# Man in ‘ice’ possession gets probation sentence

The Superior Court handed a two-year probation sentence on a man who pleaded guilty to possession of methamphetamine hydrochloride or “ice.”

Associate Judge Perry B. Inos, in a written order, directed 58-year-old Benedicto Reyes Lizama to pay a \$2,000 fine, \$20 court assessment fee, and probation fee.

Inos ordered Lizama to undergo drug counseling and allowed him to relocate to Hawaii during the probationary period.

In Hawaii, the defendant will not be placed on super-

vised probation.

Following the terms of the plea agreement, Inos did not enter a finding of guilt on Lizama.

If the defendant violates any of the terms or conditions of the probation sentence, the judge will enter an adjudication of guilt.

Inos will then sentence the defendant to a jail term up to two years.

The Office of the Attorney General charged Lizama with trafficking of a controlled substance and illegal possession of a controlled substance.

Lizama and counsel Timothy Bellas signed a plea agreement with chief prosecutor Kevin Lynch.

The defendant pleaded guilty to possession of controlled substance. The remaining charge was dismissed.

The factual basis of the agreement stated that on Feb. 19, 2009, the defendant unlawfully possessed methamphetamine.

A detective stated in his report that police officers used a “cooperating source” to purchase \$200 worth of “ice” from Lizama. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

## Heavy rains, electrical fault cause power outages

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. said two days of successive power interruptions last week were caused by heavy rains and electrical trouble in two specific areas.

Last Friday, areas and villages under Feeder 4, that included portions of Lower Base, Sadog Tasi, Capital Hill, Kagman, Papago as well as the entire grid of Feeder 7 where the northern part of Tanapag, Achugao, San Roque, As Matuis, and Marpi belong, experienced power outages as a result of heavy rains.

CUC reported that at 2:16am last Friday, the two feeders automatically tripped due to a down primary line in Tanapag area.

“Heavy rains affecting the deteriorated pole hardware cause this interruption,” CUC said.

Last Thursday, Aug. 6, it was 1pm when the first power outage affecting Feeder 3 circuit was recorded due to an electrical problem encountered at power plant 4.

Feeder 3 includes Chalan Pale Arnold Road in Puerto Rico, Gualo Rai intersection, Quarter Master Road south and the Chalan Kiya intersection.

“The first power outage affecting the Feeder 3 circuit was due to an electrical problem at Power Plant 4. Minutes later, power plant 1 manually tripped

feeders 4/7 due to problems encountered on engine No. 6,” CUC’s Gary Camacho explained, adding that Feeder 3 was later restored at 1:52pm and Feeders 4/ 7 at 1:55pm.

However, he said, upon energizing Feeder 4/7, the Feeder 3 circuit had once again automatically tripped due to additional problems with the instrument transformers at power plant 4.

CUC apologizes for any inconvenience the power interruption may impose on the community and assured that it will work diligently to minimize future interruptions. *(Moneth G. Deposa)*



**COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY**  
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT  
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055  
Phone: (670) 237-6500 Fax: (670) 234-5962  
E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

### AMENDED NOTICE TO BIDDERS

**COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (CPA)** is inviting qualified contractors to submit their qualifications and bid proposals for the **RUNWAY 7/25 REHABILITATION - PACKAGE 2, PHASE 2, FRANCISCO C. ADA SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, AIP NO. 3-69-0002-53/58.**

Sealed Proposals will be received at the office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, at Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, at **2:00 PM, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12, 2009**, at which time and place the sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read.

The Project, in general, consists of the Airport Runway 7/25 Rehabilitation to include milling of existing runway, taxiway, blast pad and shoulder pavements, asphalt concrete overlay, grooving and marking of surfaces; and the restoration of Taxiway “A”, Replacement of Runway Edge Lights and Guidance Signs, and the installation of lighted wind cones all in accordance with the plans and specifications.

The Project is being financed by funds from U.S. Federal Aviation Administration and Commonwealth Ports Authority. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within sixty (60) calendar days from the receipt of bids. CPA reserves the right to hold such bids in effect for ninety (90) calendar days from the date of bid opening.

The contract period for construction of the project shall be in accordance with **Item G-100-3.2 (Contract Time)** of the General Project Requirement of the Technical Specifications. Liquidated damages shall be in accordance with **Item G-100-3.4 (Liquidated Damages)** of the General Project Requirements. The contractor shall be assessed with the liquidated damages if the completion of the Project is delayed beyond the contract time without excuse.

The apparent low bidder may be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are “responsive and responsible.” This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous project experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and personnel, and bonding and insurance. If the apparent low bidder is found not to be “responsive or responsible”, their bid will be rejected and the next lowest bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

All mechanics and laborers on the project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section 70-27 of the specifications.

Each bidder must complete, sign, and furnish the “Bidder’s Statement on Previous Contracts Subject to EEO Clause”, a “Certification of Nonsegregated Facilities”, and the “Assurance of Disadvantaged Business Enterprises Participation”, as contained in the bid proposal documents, with the submission of the Bid Proposal.

A CD-Rom containing the bid proposal and contract documents including plans and specifications, may be obtained at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, upon the payment of **ONE HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$150.00)** for each set of plan documents in electronic form (CD) including the bid schedule. This payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cashier’s check or U.S. postal money order payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

A pre-bid conference will be held at the CPA Conference Room, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, **10:00 AM, Friday, July 17, 2009**, to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. A site visit will be followed by the pre-bid conference. All prospective bidders shall be required to attend. Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, in writing, at least seven (7) days prior to the pre-bid conference. Contractors are required to attend the pre-bid meeting.

Each proposal shall be on a form furnished by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The bidders are required to use the bid schedule form on the CD-Rom. The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; (c) any calculation error made in the bid schedule or misenter the quantity of line item; or (d) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA’s best interest.

The proposed contract is under and subject to Executive Order 11246, as amended by Executive Order 11375 dated October 13, 1977, and Section 60-1.4(b) of the regulations of the Secretary of Labor (41 CFR 60-1) as implemented by Section 152.61 of the Federal Aviation Regulations, and to the Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) and Federal Labor provisions.

All labor on the project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rates established by CNMI Law or Federal Law, whichever is higher. The Contractor shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract.

Each bidder must supply all information required by the bid proposal documents and specifications.

The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications, and bid proposal documents are available for inspection at the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

A contractor having 50 or more employees and any subcontractor having 50 or more employees and who may be awarded a contract of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) or more, will be required to maintain an affirmative action program, the standards for which are contained in the specifications. To be eligible for award, each bidder must comply with the affirmative action requirements.

In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit proposals in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award of any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement.

Women will be afforded equal opportunity in all areas of employment. However, the employment of women shall not diminish the standards or requirements for employment of minorities.

Each bid shall be accompanied by either a bid bond by US Treasury listed surety company, a certified check, or a cashier’s check in the amount not less than **ten percent (10%)** of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

The proposed contract is under and subject to the foreign trade restrictions required by 49 CFR Part 30, Denial of Public Works Contracts to Supplier of Goods and Services of Countries that Deny Procurement Market Access to U.S. Contractors.

The Aviation Safety and Capacity Expansion Act of 1990 provides that preference be given to steel and manufactured products produced in the United States when funds are expended pursuant to a grant issued under the Airport Improvement Program.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ EDWARD B. MENDIOLA  
Acting Executive Director

Date: July 29, 2009



## COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CUC-RFP-09-023



### FINANCIAL AND COMPLIANCE AUDIT FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2009

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting proposals from qualified firms to perform a financial and compliance audit of the CUC for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2009. The audit must be performed in compliance with the latest revision of the following guidelines:

1. OMB Circular A-133
2. Standards for Audits of Government Organization, Programs, Activities and Functions, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.
3. Audits of States and Local Government Units, Industry Audit guide issued by the American Institute of Public Accountants (AICPA)

The following information must be included in the audit proposal:

1. **Title Page**
  - a) RFP Subject
  - b) Name of Firm
  - c) Local Address
  - d) Telephone Number
  - e) Name of Contact Persons
  - f) Submission Date
2. **Transmittal Letter**
  - a) A brief statement of your understanding of the work to be performed and an affirmative statement to perform the work within the time period stipulated.
  - b) State all inclusive fees for which the audit will be performed.
3. **Firm’s Profile**
  - a) Provide a brief description of your firm’s personnel professional/educational background and experience, number of staff, staff level (partner, manager, supervisor, etc.) and client listing.
  - b) The firm shall make an affirmative statement that at least the partners are certified public accountants.

The date of contract award will be no later than September 30, 2009. Audit work shall commence thereafter and must be completed by January 31, 2010.

One (1) original and five (5) copies of the proposals must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **“CUC-RFP-09-023”** to Mr. Michael Pai, Public Auditor, Office of the Public Auditor, 1236 Yap Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan, 96950, no later than **3:00 p.m., local time, on September 8, 2009.**

Proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. Approach to Project (25 maximum points)
2. Qualifications of the Principal and Proposed Staff (25 maximum points)
3. Experience on Similar Projects (25 maximum points)
4. Time to Complete the Project (20 maximum points)
5. Cost (5 maximum points)

All inquiries regarding the RFP must be directed to Mr. Antonio S. Muna, CUC Executive Director, at (670) 235-7025 – 7032, extension 124.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revisions may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in any proposal if, in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of the CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

**ANTONIO S. MUNA**  
Executive Director



## Commonwealth Utilities Corporation



### REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CUC-RFP-09-024

#### A&E AND CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF SAIPAN WELL ISOLATION PROJECT

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting proposals from qualified architectural and engineering (A&E) firms for the **A&E and Construction Management Services for the Construction of Saipan Well Isolation Project**, located on the island of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

This project is funded by a grant from the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under the **American Recovery and Reinvestment (ARRA) Act of 2009**. Award of this project is contingent upon receipt of funding and approval from EPA.

The key elements of the **Design** are the following:

1. Design of new transmission lines to connect direct feed wells from different well fields into existing water tank storages to meet all federal safe drinking water standards and requirements. This shall include all the appurtenant valves, fittings and asphalt restoration.
2. Verify if existing pumps will meet new pumping requirement and if not, design and size new pump requirements.
3. Calculate and design new electrical load requirements.
4. Provide hydraulic calculations, cost estimates and construction plans and specifications.
5. Prepare, submit, and secure all necessary project permits for construction.

The complete design shall be completed within **120 days** from the date of the Notice to Proceed (NTP).

The scope of **Construction Management** services shall include, but is not limited to:

1. Conduct pre-construction conference with contractor(s), review contractor’s insurance bond forms, EEO and Labor requirements, consult with CUC and advise on acceptability of subcontractors, and provide list of submittals and requirements.
2. Monitor daily construction activities in compliance with the technical provisions of the contract and specifications, applicable codes and regulations. Make daily site inspections during the course of the project to monitor construction related activities.
3. Provide complete construction administrative functions.
4. Review and approve submittals, working drawings by the construction contractor for general compliance with the intent of the construction contract drawings and specifications. Critical review of the plans and specifications for errors, discrepancies, construction contractor verifications and potential conflicts having impact of the construction activity and schedules.
5. Review construction contractor’s application for payment in conformance with the established progress on site and provide a recommendation to CUC regarding quantities of materials in place for partial and final payments.
6. Provide periodic reports, pictures of progress of the project highlighting the critical and pending items and the construction contractor’s compliance with approved schedule.
7. Maintain a systematic set of construction files including correspondence, submittals, change orders, claims files, progress payments and test reports which shall be handed over to the CUC at the end of this contract.
8. Conduct weekly project meetings with the construction contractor and CUC to discuss work progress and any concerns relating to the construction.
9. Witness field tests performed by the construction contractor or his representative for compliance with the contract drawings and specifications.
10. Review close-out documents including as-builts, O&M, liens, and all other required documents in the specification.

Proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Qualification of the Principal and Proposed Staff (40 Points)
  - Design: 25 Points
  - Construction Management: 15 Points
- Experience in Similar Projects (40 Points)
  - Design: 25 Points
  - Construction Management: 15 Points
- Proposed Project Approach (10 Points)
- Time Frame of Work (10 Points)

Interested parties may pick up the complete Scope of Work at the CUC Water & Wastewater Engineering Section, Room 18, Third Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, during normal working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.). All inquiries concerning this RFP shall be directed to Larry Manacop of the CUC Water & Wastewater Division, at (670) 235-7025 – 7032, extension 150.

One (1) original and five (5) copies of the proposals must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **“CUC-RFP-09-024”** to Manny Sablan, CUC Procurement & Supply Manager, Room 4, Third Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **4:00 p.m., local time, on August 20, 2009**. CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in the bid proposal if to do so shall be in the best interest of the CUC. All proposals shall become the property of the CUC.

**ANTONIO S. MUNA**  
Executive Director, CUC



# Opinion

Hafa Adai!

## Saipan Tribune

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Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI  
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR  
Mark Rabago ASSISTANT EDITOR

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

### EDITORIAL

## Google's fine print

What is Google Book Search? A library? A bookstore? Or something else altogether?

Some call it Alexandria 2.0, and the comparison with the great library of antiquity is apt. Google has digitized millions of books, and if its proposed class-action settlement with their authors and publishers passes muster, these books — formerly the province of college libraries and research institutions — will be available to everyone. Google began digitizing books without the permission of copyright holders, claiming fair use. This provoked a class-action lawsuit on the part of authors and publishers, resulting in a settlement that offers many boons for the public. Books already in the public domain will be freely available, and those still under copyright will be available in a standard 20 percent preview. Google will also provide free public access to the entire online repository of content at terminals in nearly 20,000 public and university libraries across the country, only charging fees to print.

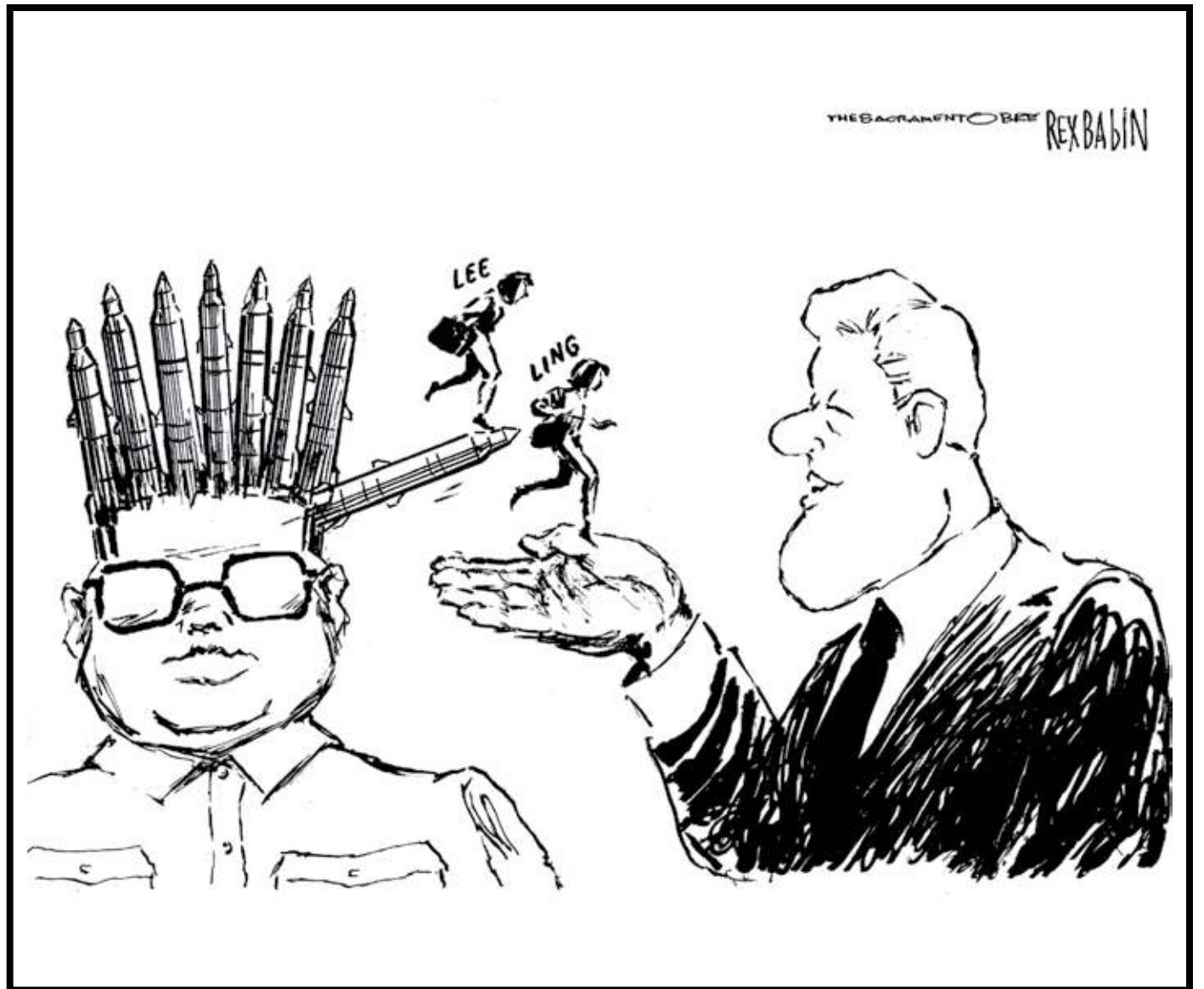
But wait, there's more! Google gives book rights holders tremendous control. They can decide what price to charge for their works, control the amount available in the free preview, and add and remove works from the online collection. And the settlement establishes a nonprofit organization, the Book Rights Registry, to locate content owners and serve as a clearinghouse through which they can receive payment from Google and negotiate with new entrants to the digital market.

What about books still under copyright whose owners have not been located — so-called "orphan" books? Google's claim makes sense: Many rights holders will emerge once they see that their work has value, but it is also in the registry's charter to seek out these rights holders. As Google Book Search generates revenue for content creators, the owners of all but the least-accessed, least-valuable books will probably come forward.

So it's curious that Google felt the need to include a clause in the settlement to prevent the registry, negotiating on behalf of "orphan" books, from offering a better deal to any of the company's competitors within its first 10 years. Google's argument is that it performed a public service by setting up the registry, investing millions of dollars in what will be a non-affiliated, nonprofit organization. This hefty initial investment would not be required of future entrants to the market, leaving Google at a disadvantage. Protection would ensure a level playing field. But if the set of protected books encompasses only those so valueless that no one will come forward to claim them, it is baffling why protection from competition in this area would be valuable. If, on the other hand, locating book rights holders requires time and effort, and the market for digitized versions of these books is easy enough to enter that a competitor could offer a better deal, this clause would create a real barrier to competition.

Google's innovative efforts will enhance the world's access to knowledge, but that doesn't mean it deserves to have it both ways. Its settlement is in many ways better for consumers than the possible outcome of litigation. But the fact that what Google is doing is wonderful should not preclude the potential to do better.

(c) 2009, The Washington Post



## A different perspective about federalization

“The sky is falling! The sky is falling!” Remember that is what Little Chicken ran screaming about as he ran through the village. To some of us the United States federalization which is to begin on Nov. 28, 2009, evokes the same feeling. But let's take a look at it from another perspective.

We all are fully aware that U.S. federalization is slowly descending upon us. We will begin to feel its initial effects this November 2009. Then its full effect will be felt on December 2014.

For some of us federalization appears as an ominous dark cloud that will plunge us into a vast pit. But I see it as a new horizon that will embark the CNMI into a new era of prosperity and growth. I personally feel that it will bring great opportunities to all the citizens.

For months I have been reading both negative and positive remarks about the effects of federalization. Let me share with you a concept that I feel may be one of the real reasons why the United States is imposing federalization upon the CNMI. And when we grasp its significant meaning, we will greatly prosper from it. It is an opportunity in waiting.

As you also are aware the United States, Guam, and Okinawa have been engaged in a dialogue about moving an entire military base to Guam. Dates have been thrown around that it will happen in a few years or as long as in ten years. But the important thing is that the United States is fortifying its defenses closer to the CNMI than ever before. Our region is to be the frontline of defense if anything breaks out in the Middle East or in Asia.

Guam has already been a military base for years. And during this time the U.S. has been using parts of the CNMI for military exercises. Tinian has been host to these military exercises for years. In fact, every time the military talks about moving to Guam, Tinian is mentioned that it will be used for military exercises.

To me, I believe that the U.S. planners for fortifying the military defenses in Guam are also planning that the CNMI must move closer into this sphere of defense. How can one plan a fortress and leave the back door unlocked or unguarded?

As the military builds its fortress in Guam, the CNMI must become a part of it. I think that the United States must control the CNMI. The CNMI is a vital link in the defenses being built against potential enemies.

It is sad that very few of us have been exploring that avenue of thought. Otherwise why is the United States trying to exclude certain nationalities from our shores without a visa? Who are these people and what is the political relationship?

Remember the U.S. is not stopping Japanese or Koreans or other

By ANTHONY PELLEGRINO  
Special to the Saipan Tribune

*Pellegrino is a longtime businessman in the CNMI and is the former president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.*



nationalities. Only certain countries that the U.S. has strained political relations with. The U.S. has to tighten its rear door. Notice how the Homeland Security is concerned about this weakness. It must plug up this opening. We are being called upon to assist.

We are a part of the United States regardless of whether we like it or not. We cannot change our relationship but we can improve it. Someone once said, “We cannot control the cards we are dealt, but we can control how we play them.”

The United States has been sending millions of dollars yearly to us for various programs. For example, it spends about \$9 million yearly just feeding our unemployed in the NAP program. It spends much more than that on other various agencies. The figure possibly totals well close to \$100 million yearly. Recently we have just been granted an additional \$54 million in stimulus money. The total financial aid from the United States is well over a billion dollars! Now it is payback time.

We have to comply with U.S. laws. We are U.S. citizens. Now the United States needs us to become a part of their defense line, May I add “our own defense line” as well.

I don't think that the United States will bankrupt the CNMI. It is showing us how we can become stronger and less dependent on outside aliens. But unfortunately too many of our citizens still want to depend on “cheap outside labor” while our own people stand in food stamp lines.

By imposing federalization on us, it is telling us that we must help ourselves. Instead of exporting millions of dollars through non-resident workers, the money must stay here. Instead of having a very high rate of local unskilled labors, we are being asked to develop a skilled local labor force.

Some of us cry : “But what about the loss of tourists in the tourist industry?” These so-called excluded nationalities can still come and enjoy our beautiful islands. But there has to be a more careful screening. Also we seem to have forgotten our Japanese market which has always been our most profitable group. Ever

See A DIFFERENT on Next Page



**EDITORIAL POLICY**

The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

# Doing, knowing, and being

(Tony de leon Guerrero, erstwhile of the Humanities Council, was parent to one of my sixth grade students, and an adult leader at SVES. I meant to engage him in extensive contextual conversations as a Humanities concern. This reflection honors his memory.)

**T**he tribe of trainers in the '70s and '80s named their KSA to guide training designs. They identified what trainees will know, skills they will have, and the attitude they will walk out with after they go through a training event. The first two are traditional; confidence is on the last, that attitudes can be programmed.

On the plethora of treasure-rich psycho-babble lay a minefield of technologies, from the touchy-feely to structured learning, that HR accountants could not assess. A return to quantifiable assessment resulted in NCLB legislation, good in intent but short on approaches that work. Inadequate support for innovation compounded the mishap. Fear of disqualifying from the guardians of pedagogical evaluations resulted in the teacher-ensnaring HQT that is a painful but laughable butt of jokes.

Making a big deal about the context of any epistemology as more important than the details of a coherent curriculum content, I continue in the same vein by laying out the triad of the KDB screen—**knowing, doing, and being**—to promote holistic planning.

Reliance on calcified subject categories of Science and Math, Language and Social Studies, PhysEd and the Arts, is no longer enough.

The ascent of knowing as the basis of existence and essence began with Rene Descartes' *Je pense donc je suis*, in his 1637 French book on *Discourses on Method*. He translated that to the oft-quoted Latin: *cogito ergo sum*, "I think, therefore, I am," or, less ambiguously, "I am thinking, therefore, I exist." This is consciousness coming to its own; this "eureka" marks reflective humanity.

## Knowing

Homo sapiens is the "specie with the thinking brain." The knowing mode has determined how "human" is defined since the Cartesian formula became a western dictum. Walt of this page earlier encouraged his readers to make their "I know" list, and the discipline of doing a

"to do" list is common. More important is knowing and doing one's "being" list, of who we think we are.

Our knowing addresses requirements of identity; doing defines vocation. The intensification of both creates "being,"—substance, symbol and style of the soul. Personality is formed and culture structured.

At best, we know that the brain has several layers of 'knowledge.' Not mutually exclusive, it is helpful to keep them apart for extensiveness of coverage. There is the sensory and objective knowledge—factual, measurable, and verifiable, -databased and interlinked in current AIs and ITs.

Impressions and responses to external phenomena are 'emotional' and subjective. Objective knowledge leans towards definition, aims to be precise and exclusive. Subjective knowledge explodes and implodes into the depth and breadth of uniqueness.

Cognitive knowledge formulates reality in words and numbers. It is interpretive and relational, conceptual and abstract. It integrates the comprehensive, meditates the profound, contemplates the transcendent, mediates the impossible, and facilitates the probable. Knowledge that issues into compelling action is characterized by decisional virtues of morals and its consequent deeds. It becomes imperative and ethical. Features of objective-subjective-interpretive-decisional knowledge are "good to know."

## Doing

Chronologically, doing precedes knowing. Personal preferences forms from the womb, translates into ego—the tool of survival, of fight and flight. Until the inductive method of science, deduction was the mode of our knowing, revealed or discovered by the gifted and talented through esoteric means, e.g., reading bird entrails, interpreting the position of the firmaments. Our time follows the inductive method of analysis, discernment and consensus.

Conceptually, knowing precedes doing. In the laboratory, we hypothesize and create method to arrive at conclusions, compared and statistically grafted. In the dialectic of the mind, this is well and good. In the messy floor of the human stable, physic's understanding of "chaos" awesome and wonder-filled, prevails.

If the ego expresses individual habits and behavior, genes and

By **JAIME VERGARA**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune's Opinion Section



memes reveals programmed propensities of personalities. Personality typologies and racial profiling have probability value. Social empathy derives from prosaic expressions and the poetic motions of the "soul;" decisional system building structures ethical "spirit."

Doing is the expression of selfhood—ego, persona, mind and spirit. One's self-story determines one's behavior; it depends on the platform one stands on.

## Being

"Who are you?" is a fundamental question of essence and existence. Once, name defined identity and/or vocation. John Baker and James Farmer knew what they did. The landed gentry knew their roots, revealing their pedigree by the land they were identified with. Thomas de Aquino needed no special introductions. *Liwayway* is the light of dawn favored in naming Malay girls; *Mei Mei* is little sister in Putunghua, a relational term in the Sino-network of kinships.

When we stand simply on the steps of our ego, we are deemed selfish. When personality patterns do not meet current norms, we are branded as dysfunctional or suffering from a disorder. When we dig deep into the treasures of race (genetics) and dive into the wells of ethnicity (memes), we favor the flavor of a soul.

There is a new discovery of the category of spirit in the emergent sense, view and practice of planetary interdependence. The parameters of time is, at least, 15 billion years; of space, the endless frontiers of the universe; of role, for the moment, to be *glocal* (*think global, act local*). The story: we live in community, from the universe to the local, where everyone belongs.

That's my story. What's yours? And, who are you?

## Letter to the Editor

# Short takes: CUC, insurance, and 'sorry'

According to the governor and Mr. Muna, Aggreko has been "fully paid" for the one year contract (\$6 million) when CUC made a three month deposit last month. OK, that takes care of the LEASE RENT for the engines. But all during this entire year, no mention has been made about payment of the "energy charge" assessed by Aggreko on a weekly basis. That energy charge is 5 cents per KWH generated with an \$84,000 MINIMUM due each week. Two questions for Mr. Muna: 1) Where did CUC get the money to pay not only \$1.5 million in lease rent, but also for fuel during July? And, 2) Is CUC current in payment of the energy charge assessments and exactly how much were they for each week? "Tiganas" is correct—the total of the Aggreko contract MINIMUM payments is a little OVER \$11 million—with about \$8 million of that being pure profit for Aggreko. Wanna bet some of that "profit" isn't getting spread around?

Regarding the Letter to Editor from "Dora" about the serious deficiencies in auto insurance coverage on Saipan; I called USAA insurance company at 1-800-531-8722 and spoke with "Julian." He stated that the only auto insurance coverage their company writes in the NMI is for ACTIVE military, other direct U.S. government employees, and employees of private companies on island under a U.S. government contract. Other private citizens in the NMI will

NOT be covered in case of a claim. To get USAA insurance you must qualify under one of the above three categories. They have an office in Guam. The company does write policies for anyone in the 50 states, Puerto Rico, Guam, and Guantanamo in Cuba. I hope "Dora" is in one of the stated categories.

On Friday, a convicted swindler wrote a letter entitled 'Sorry!' purportedly to "apologize" for her actions. The letter was part of a court-ordered decree. But, what kind of apology to the people was it? It stinks! The acts committed were not acts of "compassion"—they were deliberate acts of greed and complicity done for self-benefit, FAMILY and personal friends to the detriment of the remainder of CUC's customers. Furthermore, you don't get convicted of a serious crime by violating some company "policy" as argued by the writer in order to diminish her deed; she was convicted of a CRIME—not a policy error! This non-apology "apology" should be rejected by the court and a new order entered for a "real" apology that accepts responsibility for what the crime was and at least gives some indication that the person making it actually regrets what she did. No more of that glossed over attempt to decrease her ownership of the deed. This just shows that she has learned

little, has a poor moral character and little or no respect for the public she was supposed to serve.

As you may have guessed by now, I'm fed up with the recent string of so-called apologies being printed in the paper's editorial section. All are court-ordered and most are tiny little diatribes attempting to relegate the perpetrator's deeds to little more than a minor inconvenience and the word 'sorry' is supposed to convince the public that all is now well and forgiven. Your debt to society is not fulfilled with such meaningless examples of poor writing. Maybe, if the letters actually held ownership of the doer's deed and expressed a true sentiment of regret, they might suffice as one small step forward.

More importantly, would the letters have been written at all if not court-ordered? These letters came from "the court," not the heart, so where is the meaning? People who must be "ordered" to write, rather than doing it on their own because it's the right thing to do, should never be allowed to hold a position of trust again. Can't wait to see the "apology" from Tim!

Dr. Thomas D. Arkle Jr.

San Jose, Tinian

## A DIFFERENT

From Page 10

think why they stopped investing? Ever think why their tourist numbers have declined?

I have been in tourism since 1984. There are reasons that caused the Japanese investors to pick up and go home. If you do some research you will find that the Japanese are still investing in other parts of the world. There are reasons why fewer Japanese tourists are coming to our islands. We must find out those reasons and make amends.

What are we doing to win them back? Are we still using the same old stale techniques? Have we as a people been motivated to become part of this tourist market? I feel that most of us simply tolerate the tourists and do little to make them feel welcome.

While watching the Fourth of July, a marching band came by playing the song: "America The Beautiful." Just then a local dignity in the community walked by. As he waved hello to me, he re-

marked: "Isn't that a lovely tune of **your country?**"

It dawned on me later what his remark meant. He doesn't think it is part of our country—**his and mine—the United States!** Apparently he feels that he is a Chamorro, and that tune is an American one and has nothing to do with him or the CNMI.

Repeat this phrase until it becomes a natural part of all of us: "I am a citizen of both the United States and a citizen of the CNMI!" Repeat over and over again. Let's better understand our relationship with the United States.

I am glad that federalization is fast approaching. Remember it begins on November 2009, with its full impact on December 2114! It will force us to grow up and become a part of the United States instead of a dependent group of islands. We must think as a part of the global world, instead of a group of small mid-Pacific islands.

As Guam takes on more of a military role watch for the CNMI to take on one also. Federalization is opening the door for us to become a worthy partner of the United States and an independent economic country when we learn to play by the rules. Remember we may not

like the cards dealt to us, but we can play them skillfully.

By realizing this basic concept we possess a good hand and can play our cards smartly. The United States needs us and we need the United States. We can no longer feel that we can have our own way. Those days are gone. Let me remind you of the island of Nauru, floating alone in the Pacific Ocean without friends, or resources. A total economic failure!

Thank God that the United States needs us and wants us. The CNMI has great potentials, and we must realize them by playing our cards correctly. When we change our thinking we will change the economic future of the CNMI.

A side note: I am glad to be back. For the past few months I have been taking care of some personal health problems. But God is willing to allow me to continue a bit more.






Remember, we cannot use the excuse that we are too busy to take care of ourselves. When we become sick, it is amazing how much time we find to be sick. Please take care of yourselves. Have a lovely day.



Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

# The Weather

## 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				
Partly sunny with scattered showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms in the morning then isolated showers in the afternoon. South winds 15 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Southeast winds 15 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 87° ▼ 78°	▲ 87° ▼ 78°	▲ 87° ▼ 78°	▲ 87° ▼ 78°	▲ 87° ▼ 78°

### Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Sunny	▲ 85 ▼ 77
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲ 83 ▼ 78
Yap	Showers	▲ 86 ▼ 76
Chuuk	Rain	▲ 85 ▼ 78
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲ 83 ▼ 75
Kosrae	Partly Sunny	▲ 86 ▼ 76
Majuro	Rain	▲ 83 ▼ 78

### Around The Globe

Auckland	Cloudy	▲ 53 ▼ 41
Beijing	Sunny	▲ 95 ▼ 73
Hong Kong	Showers	▲ 88 ▼ 80
Honolulu	Showers	▲ 84 ▼ 78
London	Cloudy	▲ 73 ▼ 57
Los Angeles	Cloudy	▲ 82 ▼ 64
Manila	Thunderstorms	▲ 86 ▼ 76
Melbourne	Rain	▲ 54 ▼ 50
Miami	Cloudy	▲ 91 ▼ 79
New York	Cloudy	▲ 91 ▼ 74
Osaka	Cloudy	▲ 86 ▼ 80
Paris	Sunny	▲ 76 ▼ 56
Pusan	Mostly Sunny	▲ 84 ▼ 72
Rome	Cloudy	▲ 89 ▼ 68
Salem	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 77 ▼ 53
San Francisco	Cloudy	▲ 77 ▼ 56
Seoul	Showers	▲ 88 ▼ 70
Tokyo	Cloudy	▲ 84 ▼ 78
Washington, DC	Partly Sunny	▲ 95 ▼ 77

### Tides

Saipan Harbor		
4:26 AM Today	Low Tide:	0.7 Feet
9:51 AM Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet
4:17 PM Today	Low Tide:	0.4 Feet
10:31 PM Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet

### Yesterday's Satellite Image



**PICTURE TIME: 1:00AM, SUNDAY, AUGUST 9, 2009**  
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A surface trough extends southeastward from Tropical Depression 10W centered at 25N138E through the Marianas to end at 12N147E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found northwest of the Marianas within an area bounded by a line from 25N137E to 17N145E to 16N134E back to 25N137E. Scattered showers are located over the Marianas between 17N and 10N from 144E to 150E. A surface trough extends northward from a weak circulation centered south of the Marianas near 6N150E to 16N153E. A large area of scattered showers are located between 10N and the equator from 141E to 152E. An upper-level trough extending southwestward from an upper-level low centered north of Wake Island near 24N167E is generating scattered showers and a few thunderstorms northeast of Chuuk within 125 miles of a line from 11N154E to 17N160E. Two surface troughs stretch southward from 25N160E to Kwajalein and from 6N170E to 2N166E. Convergence near the trough axes is producing scattered showers within 160 miles of a line from 15N161E to 6N169E to 2N180.

### Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:01 AM	6:43 PM
Tuesday	6:02 AM	6:43 PM
Wednesday	6:02 AM	6:42 PM
Thursday	6:02 AM	6:42 PM
Friday	6:02 AM	6:41 PM

### Moonrise/Moonset

Today	9:14 PM	9:05 AM
Tuesday	9:52 PM	9:55 AM
Wednesday	10:34 PM	10:47 AM
Thursday	11:20 PM	11:42 AM
Friday		12:41 AM

## GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

### PICTURES

- **ISLAND SNAPSHOTS**  
Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- **BIRTHDAY GREETINGS**  
A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- **BUSINESS**  
Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- **SAMUT SARI**  
Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- **TRAVELOGUE**  
Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **COMMUNITY BRIEFS**

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

### CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

### REQUIREMENTS

- For pictures:**
- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
  - Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
  - Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
  - Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
  - For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.
- For announcements:**
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

### HOW TO SUBMIT

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- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, CIC Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan  
To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JULY 21, 2009

DEPARTURES	ARRIVALS
<b>SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)</b> C09597 11:50am 12:25pm 1, 7	<b>ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN</b> C09598 3:15am 3:50am 5, 6 C09312 1:20pm 1:55pm 6
<b>ROTA (ROP)-GUAM</b> C09597 12:50pm 1:20pm 1, 7	<b>GUAM-ROTA (ROP)</b> C09598 2:10am 2:40am 5, 6 C09312 12:10pm 12:40pm 6
<b>SAIPAN-GUAM</b> C09317 4:20am 5:10am Daily C09313 8:30am 9:20am Daily C09597 11:50am 1:20pm 1, 7 via ROP C09601 12:30pm 1:20pm 4, 5 C09603 3:30pm 4:20pm Daily C09605 6:30pm 7:20pm Daily C09599 9:30pm 10:20pm Daily	<b>GUAM-SAIPAN</b> C09598 2:10am 3:50am 5, 6 via ROP C09316 2:20am 3:10am 1, 2, 3, 4, 7 C09596 7:00am 7:50am Daily C09600 10:20am 11:10am 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 C09312 12:10pm 1:55pm 6 via ROP C09602 2:00pm 2:50pm 1, 4, 5, 7 C09604 5:00pm 5:50pm Daily C09606 8:00pm 8:50pm Daily
<b>SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)</b> C0941 5:30am 8:05am Daily NW99 6:05am 8:40am Daily NW78 9:00am 2:05pm Daily via NGO NW75 3:50pm 6:25pm Daily C0943 5:25pm 8:00pm Daily	<b>NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN</b> C0942 9:25am 1:55pm Daily NW76 10:00am 2:35pm Daily NW77 6:35pm 1:40am+1 Daily via NGO NW100 8:45pm 1:20am+1 Daily C0944 9:00pm 1:30am+1 Daily
<b>SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)</b> OZ119 4:00am 6:40am 1, 3, 4, 6	<b>OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN</b> OZ120 9:55pm 2:20am+1 2, 3, 5, 7
<b>SAIPAN-NAGOYA (NGO)</b> NW78 9:00am 11:40am Daily	<b>NAGOYA (NGO)-SAIPAN</b> NW77 9:10pm 1:40am+1 Daily
<b>SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)</b> OZ608 3:20am 6:50am 1, 4, 5, 7	<b>BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN</b> OZ607 9:00pm 2:20am+1 3, 4, 6, 7
<b>SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)</b> OZ604 2:20am 6:00am 1 OZ604 2:50am 6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 OZ119 4:00am 11:20am 1, 3, 4, 6 via KIX OZ606 3:30pm 7:00pm 2, 4, 6, 7	<b>SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN</b> OZ605 9:00am 2:30pm 2, 4, 6, 7 OZ120 7:10pm 2:20am+1 2, 3, 5, 7 via KIX OZ603 7:40pm 1:10am+1 7 OZ603 8:10pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
<b>SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)</b> FM844 2:50am 5:40am 2, 6	<b>SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN</b> FM843 7:15pm 1:50am+1 1, 5
<b>SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)</b> CZ3008 3:30am 6:40am 2, 6	<b>GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN</b> CZ3007 7:30pm 2:40am+1 1, 5
<b>SAIPAN-MANILA</b> OZ604/701 2:20am 11:25am 1 via ICN OZ604/703 2:50am 11:25am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN C09603/933 3:30pm 8:40pm Daily via GUM C09599/PR111 9:30pm 7:45am+1 1, 2, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	<b>MANILA-SAIPAN</b> OZ702/603 12:45pm 1:10am+1 7 via ICN OZ702/603 12:45pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN PR110/C09596 10:00pm 7:50am+1 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM C0934/9596 10:55pm 7:50am+1 Daily via GUM OZ704/605 11:50pm 2:30pm+1 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
<b>SAIPAN-HONG KONG</b> OZ604/721 2:20am 11:45am 1 via ICN OZ604/721 2:50am 11:45am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	<b>HONG KONG-SAIPAN</b> OZ724/605 12:30am 2:30pm 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN OZ722/603 1:15pm 1:10am+1 7 via ICN OZ722/603 1:15pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; PR: Philippine Airlines; NW: Northwest; OZ: Asiana  
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

## FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
<b>Guam-Rota</b>				FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
FRE 100	7:00am	7:30am	Daily	FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
<b>Rota-Saipan</b>				FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 100	7:50am	8:20am	Daily	FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
<b>Saipan-Rota</b>				FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 200	9:00am	9:30am	Daily	FRE 123 *	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
<b>Rota-Guam</b>				FRE 125 *	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
FRE 200	9:50am	10:15am	Daily	<b>Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**</b>			
<b>Guam-Rota</b>				FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 300	4:00pm	4:30pm	Daily	FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
<b>Rota-Saipan</b>				FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 300	4:50pm	5:25pm	Daily	FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
<b>Saipan-Rota</b>				FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 400	6:00pm	6:30pm	Daily	FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
<b>Rota-Guam</b>				FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 400	6:45pm	7:15pm	Daily	FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
<b>Saipan-Tinian</b>				FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 101	6:45am	6:55am	Daily	FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 103	7:30am	7:40am	Daily	FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 105	8:00am	8:10am	Daily	FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 107	8:40am	8:50am	Daily	FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily
FRE 109*	9:10am	9:20am	Daily				
FRE 111*	10:45am	10:55am	Daily				



## NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- \*11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at [www.nmicrimestoppers.com](http://www.nmicrimestoppers.com)



# Island Snapshots

Photos by HAIDEE V. EUGENIO



Foreign workers sign an attendance sheet during a peaceful assembly to push for improved immigration status at the Garapan Fishing Base yesterday.



Dressed in Bangladesh national costume, these Saipan-born children perform a dance number at yesterday's gathering at the Garapan Fishing Base.



U.S. citizen children of alien workers showcase their talent to entertain the crowd that included U.S. House Committee on Natural Resources chairman Rep. Nick J. Rahall II (D-WV), Rep. Gregorio "Kilili" Sablan (D-MP), and Re. Donna Christensen (D-VI).



Come rain or shine, Rep. Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo (D-Guam) is dressed to the nines when she arrives at the West tarmac of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport on Saturday afternoon.



Alien workers and their U.S. citizen children listen to U.S. House Committee on Natural Resources Chairman Nick J. Rahall II (D-WV)'s remarks. Rahall tells the crowd, "It really came home to me and I appreciate what I've heard today."



Rep. Gregorio "Kilili" C. Sablan (D-MP), second right, introduces local Rep. Tina Sablan, right, to U.S. Virgin Islands Congresswoman Donna M. Christensen, left, and U.S. House Committee on Natural Resources chairman Nick J. Rahall II (D-WV), second left.



American Samoa Delegate Eni F.H. Faleomavaega gets off a military plane at the Saipan International Airport on Saturday afternoon.



Gus Loste, president of the Coalition for Recognition, Equality and Advancement for American Minorities or CREAM, brings to the rally his daughter.



A child and an old woman take cover from the scorching sun as they wait for the arrival of the congressional delegates.



Organizers of yesterday's peaceful assembly pose for a group photo.



# Business

## As 'cash for clunkers' ramps up, new cars sell out

**NEW YORK (AP)**—The nation's car dealers from earlier in the year, when hard-hit dealers saw cars pile up as consumers largely shunned big-ticket purchases.

As the "cash-for-clunkers" program reaches its next chapter, and consumers pour into showrooms, some dealers say their stock of new cars—especially for fuel-efficient smaller models—is waning.

At Larry Miller Honda in Boise, Idaho, about two-thirds of the car lot is empty. The dealership is nearly out of 2009 models—something that usually doesn't happen until the late fall.

And the situation is so dire at a Chrysler, Dodge and Jeep dealership in Beaver Springs, Pa., that the owner, Michael Andretta, is essentially shutting down this weekend to repave his car lot.

"I'm out of cars," Andretta said. "I do not have a single car in my dealership that qualifies for anything."

Such a scenario amounts to a complete shift



A crane lifts a flattened car to a shredder at Gershow Recycling Corp. in Medford, N.Y., Thursday, Aug. 6, 2009.

It also reflects the rampant popularity of the incentive program, which gives car owners vouchers of up to \$4,500 to trade in older, gas-guzzling vehicles for new, cleaner varieties.

On Friday, President Barack Obama approved another \$2 billion to extend the program until Labor Day, putting consumers back in the car-buying mood. The program's first \$1 billion ran out in about a week.

However, industry officials say shoppers now searching for deals may need to be more flexible, given the dwindling number of cars on many lots. Customers

hoping for a blue vehicle, for instance, may need to settle for a white one instead, said John McEleney, the chairman of the National Automobile Dealers Association.

## Job security but no advancement from bottom rung

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Sleep is a rare commodity for Juan Cortez. Between nights spent clearing tables at a Manhattan nightclub and days running food to customers in a Bronx restaurant, the 42-year-old Peruvian immigrant worries more about finding time for shuteye than job security.

More than 100 miles to the north in the Hudson Valley, Omar Guzman also isn't concerned about staying em-

ployed. The 20-year-old migrant farm worker spends his summer days picking peas and cherries, and by fall will be harvesting acres of apples.

Even with the unemployment rate above 9 percent, the nation's native-born jobless are looking at higher rungs of the labor market for their next career move. For immigrants like Cortez and Guzman, it means a degree of job security - but

also more competition if they want to advance into jobs above bussers and barbacks, runners, dishwashers and crop hands.

The phenomenon of Americans shunning farm jobs is nothing new—the influx of Mexicans and other foreign-born workers to fill vacancies has fueled a long, sometimes contentious immigration debate. Those labor dynamics seem largely unchanged this year.

## Drug industry backing Obama's health care plan

**WASHINGTON (AP)**—The nation's drugmakers stand ready to spend \$150 million to help President Barack Obama overhaul health care this fall, according to numerous officials, a staggering sum that could dwarf attempts to derail his chief domestic priority.

The White House and allies in Congress are well aware of

the effort by Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America, a somewhat surprising political alliance, given the industry's recent history of siding with Republicans and the Democrats' disdain for special interests.

The campaign, now in its early stages, includes television advertising under PhRMA's own

name and commercials aired in conjunction with the liberal group, Families USA.

Numerous people with knowledge of PhRMA's plans said they had been told it would likely reach \$150 million and perhaps \$200 million. They spoke on condition of anonymity, saying they were not authorized to divulge details.

### BUSINESS BRIEFS

#### Investors finally find good news on unemployment

**NEW YORK (AP)**—The economy's most vexing problem, unemployment, is showing the first signs of easing. And Wall Street is celebrating. Major stock indexes jumped more than 1 percent Friday after the government said the nation's unemployment rate unexpectedly fell in July for the first time in 15 months and that employers cut fewer jobs. Bond prices fell, driving yields higher as investors left the safety of Treasuries. The Labor Department report handed investors the best evidence yet that the economy could be climbing out of the recession. Analysts widely consider unemployment the biggest obstacle to a recovery in the economy, which is driven by consumer spending.

#### Feds: Madoff financial exec to plead guilty in NY

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Federal prosecutors expect the former chief financial officer for disgraced financier Bernard Madoff to plead guilty Tuesday to criminal charges. Frank DiPascali, long rumored to be cooperating with authorities, agreed to enter the plea in federal court in Manhattan, prosecutors said Friday in a letter to a judge. The charges were not specified. A phone call to DiPascali's attorney, Marc Mukasey, was referred to a law firm spokeswoman who declined to comment. Earlier Friday, prosecutors filed a one-page notification with the court that they would charge DiPascali. Such a filing usually means that there's a plea deal and that the defendant is cooperating.

#### Regulators close 3 banks in Fla., Ore.; total 72

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Regulators on Friday shut down two banks in Florida and one in Oregon, bringing to 72 the number of federally insured banks to fail this year under the weight of the weak economy and rising loan losses. The Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. was appointed receiver of the banks: First State Bank, of Sarasota, Fla.; Venice, Fla.-based Community National Bank of Sarasota County, and Community First Bank, of Prineville, Ore. First State Bank had total assets of \$463 million and deposits totaling \$387 million. Community National Bank had \$97 million in assets and \$93 million in deposits. Community First Bank had \$209 million in assets and \$182 million in deposits.

# Nation

## Now that she's sworn in, Sotomayor a rookie again

**WASHINGTON (AP)**—Sonia Sotomayor has gained admission to the Marble Palace.

Now she has to figure out how the Supreme Court works.

When do you speak up? How do you find your way around a building torn apart by renovation? If someone knocks at the door while the justices are meeting in their private conference room, who answers? (Note to the newest justice: You do.)



Sotomayor

After 17 years as a federal judge, Sotomayor knows her

way around a courthouse. But her new workplace, filled with quirky customs and rituals, isn't any old court building and new justices, like new colleagues everywhere, want to fit in.

"You don't necessarily want to break the china when you start out," said Christopher Landau, who served as

a law clerk to Justice Clarence Thomas after his tumultuous confirmation in 1991.

Sotomayor, 55, became the court's first Hispanic and third woman after taking an oath of office Saturday from Chief Justice John Roberts. She pledged to "do equal right to the poor and to the rich" in a brief ceremony at the court beneath a portrait of legendary Chief Justice John Marshall.

Roberts welcomed his newest colleague to the court and said she could begin work "without delay."

## Petitions for US worker green cards down sharply

By ANABELLE GARAY  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

**DALLAS (AP)**—The number of petitions from employers trying to bring foreigners to work permanently in the U.S. has declined dramatically over the last two years, an Associated Press review of government data has found.

With the nation facing a deep recession and high unemployment, the government has received about half the number of employer-

sponsored applications for work-based green cards in fiscal years 2008 and 2009 than it did in each of the previous years. There were almost 235,000 applications submitted in fiscal 2007, almost 104,000 the following year, and fewer than 36,000 through the first eight months of fiscal 2009, according to data obtained by the AP.

In addition to the weak job market, long application processing times, deep job cuts in sectors that have traditionally

lured large numbers of applicants and more competition from American job seekers have led to the sharp decline, experts say.

"It mirrors the recession. Employers aren't hiring as much," said Kristi Barrows, deputy director of the Texas Service Center.

At the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services' Texas Service Center in Dallas, would-be immigrant workers once waited a year or longer for a decision.

## Plane, copter collide over Hudson; 9 believed dead

**NEW YORK (AP)**—A small private plane collided with a sightseeing helicopter over the Hudson River on Saturday, scattering debris in the water and forcing thousands of people on the New Jersey waterfront to scamper for cover. Nine people on both aircraft were presumed dead.

A helicopter pilot refueling on the ground at the heliport

for Liberty Tours, which operated the doomed sightseeing craft, saw the plane approaching the helicopter and tried to radio an alert to the pilots, police Commissioner Raymond Kelly said. The warning wasn't heard or didn't happen in time.

"He radioed the accident helicopter and told him, 'One-lima-hotel, you have a fixed wing behind you,'" National

Transportation Safety Board Chairman Deborah Hersman said Saturday. "There was no response."

The collision, which Mayor Michael Bloomberg said was "not survivable," happened just after noon and was seen by thousands of people enjoying a crystal-clear summer day from the New York and New Jersey sides of the river.



### ACROSS THE NATION

#### Charges unlikely for husband in NY wrong-way crash

**GARDEN CITY, N.Y. (AP)**—There isn't much chance the husband of Diane Schuler could face criminal charges for the fiery crash she caused while driving the wrong way on a highway, killing herself and seven others, attorneys agree. Prosecutors would have to prove Daniel Schuler was aware his wife was intoxicated—and failed to stop her—when she packed her two children and three nieces into a minivan at an upstate campground for the ride home to Long Island. A witness who saw her there said she was sober, and state police have said she wasn't impaired an hour after she left. So what was defense attorney Dominic Barbara doing when he paraded the teary-eyed widower before a mob of reporters this week to dispute autopsy find-

ings that Diane Schuler was high on marijuana and drunk when she smashed head-on into a sport utility vehicle?

#### Hawaii closing beaches as Hurricane Felicia nears

**HONOLULU (AP)**—Several beach parks on Hawaii's Big Island will be closed beginning Sunday afternoon because of Hurricane Felicia, which is expected to increase wave heights as it approaches land, Hawaii County Civil Defense Agency officials said Saturday. The National Weather Service in Honolulu, however, said Felicia would likely be downgraded to a tropical storm or tropical depression once it moves closer to the islands. Felicia peaked Thursday as a Category 4 storm with winds topping 140 mph. But the weakening storm entered the Central Pacific Saturday as a Category 1 hurri-

cane, with maximum sustained winds of 85 mph.

#### 2 killed in crash with Christian band's tour bus

**FORT WAYNE, Ind. (AP)**—The Christian rock band MercyMe canceled a show Saturday in the St. Louis area after its tour bus collided with a car in northeastern Indiana, killing two passengers in the car and the pregnant car driver's unborn baby. No one in the band was seriously injured, sustaining what they described as "minor bumps and bruises." A news story on the crash and a photo of the damaged front of the bus were posted on the band's Web site Saturday. "MercyMe would like to express their incredible heartache over this horrible accident," the band said in a statement. "They are praying for the families of all who this will affect, and are asking others to please pray as well."



# Asia

## Typhoon forces evacuation of 1M Chinese

**TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP)**—Typhoon Morakot churned toward China forcing the evacuation of nearly 1 million people Sunday, a day after lashing Taiwan with torrential rains that caused the worst flooding on the island in 50 years.

Twenty-nine people were missing in southern Taiwan, the Disaster Relief Center said, and a woman was killed when her vehicle plunged into a ditch in Kaohsiung county in heavy rain Friday.

Morakot was centered 42 miles (70 kilometers) off China's southeastern Fujian province Sunday morning. Taiwan's Central Weather Bureau said the storm had winds of up to 67 miles per hour (108 kilometers per hour) and was headed northwest toward China at a speed of 7 mph (11 kph).

About 1 million people were evacuated from China's eastern coastal provinces by early Sunday—more than 470,000 people in Zhejiang and 485,000



A woman struggles with the winds of approaching Typhoon Morakot, Friday, Aug. 7, 2009, in Taipei, Taiwan.

others in neighboring Fujian. Authorities in Fujian called 48,000 boats back to harbor.

The meteorological station in eastern Zhejiang issued at ty-

phoon alert and said the storm was likely to make landfall sometime between noon and nighttime, bringing heavy rain to coastal areas.

## Taliban leader's death disputed, shootout claimed

**ISLAMABAD (AP)**—Senior Taliban commanders denied their leader was killed in a CIA missile strike in Pakistan while conflicting reports emerged of a clash between rival factions during a meeting to choose a successor.

Interior Minister Rahman Malik said late Saturday that authorities received information about a fight breaking out during a meeting, or shura, be-

tween groups led by Hakimullah—one of the Taliban's most powerful commanders - and Waliur Rehman.

Both are believed to be top contenders to replace Baitullah Mehsud—should reports of his death in Wednesday's strike prove true.

"We had the information that one of them is dead. So the information is being verified. We need to see the dead bodies, we

need to do some DNA, we need to have something solid," Malik told local television.

He said the incident occurred Friday. Hakimullah spoke to an Associated Press reporter Saturday morning when he called to claim that Mehsud was alive.

A senior government official, who could not be named because of the sensitivity of the situation, cast doubt on the claim.

## Afghan challenger blasts government security

**KABUL (AP)**—President Hamid Karzai's top challenger charged Saturday that the government was failing to establish safe conditions for the Aug. 20 election, but pledged that his supporters would not protest violently if he lost.

Abdullah Abdullah said Karzai's administration, which is supposed to have primary responsibility for election security, was not protecting

campaign workers.

Interior Ministry officials say there have been at least 20 attacks against politicians or their aides in recent weeks.

Gunmen killed two workers from Abdullah's campaign last month in two separate attacks, while the convoy of one of Karzai's vice presidential running mates, Mohammad Qasim Fahim, came under fire in northern Afghanistan late last month,

wounding a cameraman working for the campaign.

"Unfortunately the Afghan government has failed at providing security during the campaign period," Abdullah told reporters. "There have not been enough security measures taken by the government for the election."

A Karzai spokesman could not immediately be reached for comment.

### ASIAN BRIEFS

#### Nagasaki mayor urges worldwide nuclear arms ban

**TOKYO (AP)**—The mayor of Nagasaki called for a global ban on nuclear arms at a ceremony marking the 64th anniversary of the devastating U.S. attack on the Japanese city that killed about 80,000 people. In a speech given just after 11:02 a.m.—the time when a plutonium American bomb flattened Nagasaki on Aug. 9, 1945—Mayor Tomihisa Taue said some progress toward eliminating nuclear weaponry had been made but more needed to be done. He cited a speech by President Barack Obama in April calling on the world to rid itself of atomic weapons, but also noted a nuclear test blast by North Korea in May.

#### China lifts blockade around plague-stricken town

**BEIJING (AP)**—A blockade around a remote northwest Chinese town where deadly pneumonic plague killed three people and sickened nine was lifted after no new infections were reported, an official said Sunday. The blockade of Ziketan in an ethnically Tibetan area in Qinghai province ended Saturday night after 10 days, said a government spokesman who would only give his surname, Wang. Police had set up checkpoints around the farming town of 10,000 people, sealing it off to prevent the spread of the disease that can kill in as few as 24 hours if left untreated.

#### Government and pro-rebel party win local elections

**COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP)**—Sri Lanka's ruling coalition and an ethnic Tamil party seen as a front for the defeated Tamil Tiger rebels have won the first postwar elections, held near the island's former battlefields. According to state television, President Mahinda Rajapaksa's ruling coalition captured Jaffna town council, securing 13 of the 23 seats, while the pro-rebel Tamil National Alliance came second with eight seats in the election held Saturday. The pro-rebel party won the Vavuniya town council, taking five of the 11 seats, while the ruling party won two seats.

# World

## Safety of Russian planes in Afghanistan questioned

**MOSCOW (AP)**—More than a year ago, the U.N. dropped the Russian air transport company Vertikal-T from its approved list of vendors after a fatal helicopter crash in Nepal.

Yet NATO continued to use helicopters owned by Vertikal-T in Afghanistan. And on July 19, one of those choppers crashed at southern Afghanistan's largest NATO base, killing 16 civilians on board.

The crash reflects a little-known reality behind NATO's military push in Afghanistan: It is relying on Russian aviators flying Soviet-design aircraft, who are clocking up lucrative contracts in a country Russian troops left two decades ago.

Aviation industry analysts say many of these contractors have bad safety records, and allege that NATO has hired some operators with questionable backgrounds

through arms-length leasing deals. These same analysts say governments have outsourced crucial military contracts to little-known companies.

"Normally this would be handled by the military, but the military have been cut back. ... They are plugging the gaps with dodgy operators," said Hugh Griffiths, an analyst at the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, or SIPRI.

## French woman, embassy staff confess in Iran trial

**TEHRAN, Iran (AP)**—A young French academic and local staff of the British and French embassies stood trial Saturday with dozens of Iranian opposition figures and confessed to being involved in the country's postelection unrest.

Iran's opposition and rights groups have condemned the trial as a sham and say such confessions are coerced and scripted. Britain, which seemed caught off guard by the appearance of its embassy employee,

called it an outrage, while France demanded the immediate release of its citizen.

Saturday's second hearing at Tehran's Revolutionary Court involved a new group of detainees and focused on testimony from the French academic and the two other foreign-linked defendants, demonstrating the government's resolve to taint Iran's pro-reform movement as a tool of foreign countries—particularly Britain and the

United States.

The prosecutor accused the two countries of fomenting the unrest in an attempt to engineer a "soft overthrow" of the government.

The French academic and the two embassy employees took turns standing at a podium in the large, wood-paneled courtroom to make confessions before a judge seated between two large portraits for Iran's supreme leader and the Islamic Republic's founder.

## Mice, anyone? Making a meal out of mice in Malawi



In this June 20, 2009 photo mice are sorted according their size after being captured in a maize field near Lilongwe, Malawi.

**LILONGWE, Malawi (AP)**—Cooked, salted or dried, field mice strung on sticks are sold as a popular delicacy in Malawi markets and roadside stalls.

The mice are hunted in corn fields after the harvest when they have grown plump on a diet of grains, fruits, grass and

the odd insect. The most widely eaten species is known locally as Kapuku, gray in color and with a shorter tail than the more common rat.

Young boys have to be quick as they chase the mice through the fields and catch them. But local villagers have also come

up with an innovative trap.

One method involves digging holes and putting clay pots filled with water into them. The mouth of the pot is smeared with fried corn husks. As some of the mice fight for the husks, they fall into the pot and drown.

### WORLD BRIEFS

#### Former US priest charged with sex abuse in UK

**LONDON (AP)**—A former California priest extradited from the U.S. appeared in a British court Saturday, charged with sexually abusing young boys. James Robinson, 71, is alleged to have carried out the abuse when he served as a Roman Catholic priest in Britain between 1959 and 1983. He moved to California in 1985 and was arrested there in January after he was tracked down by a BBC program and challenged in

person by one of his accusers. Robinson was taken into custody after a two-minute hearing at a court in Birmingham, 120 miles (190 kilometers) north of London.

#### Venezuela orders ambassador back to Colombia

**CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)**—President Hugo Chavez announced he is sending his ambassador back to Colombia, signaling a willingness to ease a diplomatic impasse while not backing down from

opposing Colombia's plan to open its military bases to a bigger U.S. presence. Chavez said as he met with a group of Colombian opposition politicians Saturday night that he still firmly opposes President Alvaro Uribe's plan to allow American troops to use at least seven Colombian military bases, calling it a threat to Venezuela and the region. "The decision to freeze relations with Uribe's government remains," Chavez told reporters. "We have plenty of reasons to be highly concerned."



# Health & Fitness

## Not just gamers getting their exercise 'Fit'

By ELIZABETH LARGE  
(C) 2009, THE BALTIMORE SUN

**S**purred by the success of Nintendo's "Wii Fit," video games are suddenly more and more about fitness.

"Wii Fit," a video game that acts as a virtual exercise coach, guides players through yoga moves, basic strength training and aerobics. Since its U.S. release about a year ago, "Wii Fit" has sold more than 6 million copies.

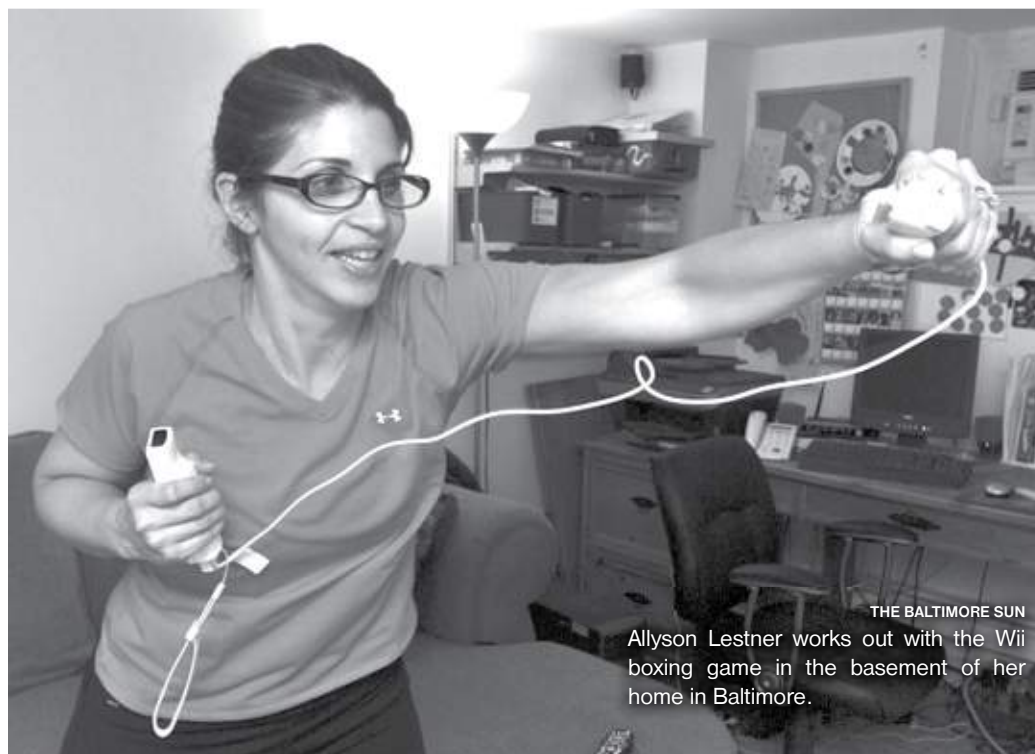
Nintendo's success has attracted the attention not only of its competitors (a slew of next-generation fitness-themed games such as "EA Sports Active" are on store shelves or will be by Christmas) but also health professionals. Such institutions as the University of Mississippi and Indiana University have started looking into whether interactive video games are viable tools to promote health and combat obesity or just another fitness fad.

"Your body doesn't care if you're going out on the street riding a bicycle or pedaling in front of a Wii screen," says Lew Lyon, vice president of MedStar Sports Health at Union Memorial Hospital in Baltimore and a sports psychologist.

Fewer than 40 percent of Americans are getting enough exercise, he points out. "If we can get 10 percent more active (with video games) that's a good thing."

Fitness-themed games can be useful even for avid exercisers. They offer variety and the convenience of working out in your living room. If it weren't for her Wii, Allyson Lestner, who lives in Towson, Md., and ran a half-marathon in November, probably wouldn't be in as good shape as she is now.

After the race, she says, "I got burnt out from



THE BALTIMORE SUN  
Allyson Lestner works out with the Wii boxing game in the basement of her home in Baltimore.

running. I had a 'Wii Fit' and started using it more seriously."

When Lestner, 30, works out with the online skating program, for instance, she's actually doing strength training.

"The lower you go, the faster you go on the screen," she says. "You're doing squats and you don't realize it."

The variety of minigames within the system helps keep Lestner and others interested. But because interactive fitness games are relatively new, research is scarce about their staying power. Once the novelty wears off, will the "Wii Fit" balance board end up in the back of the closet?

Pilot studies suggest there are things that can

be done to help people stick with the routines, such as using multiplayer games, says Elizabeth Lyons, a doctoral candidate at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Lyons was one of the speakers at the annual Games for Health conference in June in Boston. While the conference looked at the broader role of video games in health and health care, one of the five topics covered was exercise-themed games.

As for the criticism that interest could wane, Lyons doesn't think fitness video games should be compared with other kinds of exercise in regards to staying power. She suggests looking at what keeps people playing games. Novelty is important. If that's true, it's good there are so many choices.

Lyons sees fitness games as a way to lure kids and adults away from sitting in front of the TV and similar behavior. People have plenty of excuses—she uses the more polite word "barriers"—for not exercising: They don't have time. They have a poor body image and don't want to work out around other, fitter people at the gym. Or, most simply, they don't know how.

A fitness game could be the answer to all of those. And as more video-game developers roll out exercise-themed games, customers will have a range of options.

"Far more big players are jumping into the fray," says Adam Sessler, host of "X-Play," a cable TV show about video games.

Although some games are simply 'Fit' knock-offs, others are raising to a new level aerobic conditioning, strength training and stretching regimens that are actually fun.

Sessler sees the phenomenon partly as an attempt of the industry as a whole to expand the breadth of video gaming and improve its image.

"It's not about sitting in the dark with a console eating chips anymore," he says.

Released in May, "EA Sports Active" sought to distance itself from "Wii Fit" by promising a more high-impact, Western-style workout. Another new release, "Gold's Gym Cardio Workout," promotes itself by saying it "offers a more intense cardio workout than most 'Wii Fitness' games."

Not to be outdone, Nintendo announced plans at last month's Electronic Entertainment Expo trade show for a sensor that would track a player's pulse, to be used with the more strenuous "Wii Fit" sequel, "Wii Fit Plus."

Some of the newest games in development are disguised as play but designed to deliver real aerobic exercise. "Tony Hawk: Ride," for instance, uses a skateboard instead of a balance board.

"(It's) a new point in the trend," Sessler says.

By EMMA BROWN  
(C) 2009, THE WASHINGTON POST

**WASHINGTON**—The desks had been pushed aside in a classroom at George Washington University on a recent afternoon, and 15 D.C. high school students sat cross-legged on the floor with their eyes closed, breathing. For an hour, under the guidance of volunteer yoga teacher Jessi Long, they stretched and lunged, extending their hands toward the ceiling and folding into toe-touching forward bends.

At the end, they lay unmoving on their backs in savasana, or corpse pose,

## Yoga shouldn't be a financial stretch, some say

drawing audibly deeper breaths as the minutes passed.

"Remember this feeling in your daily life," said Long, rousing them with her voice. "You can always come back to this feeling of relaxation and release."

The class, for students in Upward Bound, a program that prepares low-income youths for college, is part of a growing movement to take yoga beyond its reputation as boutique exercise for the well-to-do and use it as therapy for groups such as at-risk and homeless youths, HIV/AIDS patients



THE WASHINGTON POST  
Upward Bound students Christian Carter, left, Monet Tucker and Edward Barnes do the cobra pose in a D.C. yoga class.

and torture survivors.

In Media, Pa., Sprout Yoga teaches free classes to people recovering from post-traumatic stress syndrome and eating disorders. Yoga Hope in Boston serves battered women and recovering addicts.

"We're just trying to give people access to the true yoga," said Adrienne Boxer, executive director of Street Yoga, a Portland, Ore., organization that teaches homeless teens and victims of sexual abuse, among others. "It's a lot more than an asana, or a pose that you're striking. It's the way that you breathe and the way you relate to others and communicate."

Mark Lilly, who founded Street Yoga in 2002, said the interest in making yoga freely accessible grew steadily until two years ago, when it exploded.

"Enough service providers — social workers and nurses and senior staff at nonprofits and clinics and hospitals — had done yoga in their own lives," he said. "It just hit in a big way for a lot of people at the same time."

In Washington, the effort is just beginning. In addition to Long's class for teens, there are a handful of other free sessions, including occasional classes at D.C. libraries. Another volunteer teaches political-asylum seekers through a Baltimore-based organization called Advocates for Survivors of Torture and Trauma.

Jasmine Chehraz, 29, who founded the nonprofit studio Yoga District three years ago in Washington, is one of the main people behind the "yoga activist" outreach effort in the area. She launched a Web site for volunteer teachers to

reach nonprofit groups (and vice versa), and she invited Lilly to Yoga District's bare-bones Bloomingdale studio, a former pager store.

Lilly spent three days last week at the studio teaching 30 yoga instructors, social workers and medical students how to translate the language and movements of yoga into something approachable by a pregnant teen, an abused child or a recovering addict.

"Empowering people to meet their own needs is one of the biggest things we can do," Lilly said. "Yoga is just the context."

That attitude can sound Pollyannaish, and people who are dealing with pain or neglect have needs that go beyond exercise. But even some skeptics of alternative therapies agree that yoga is a tool people can use to feel better.

"Yoga is exercise, and it's pretty well established that exercise improves the mood and can reduce stress," said Steven Novella, a Yale University neurologist who founded the New England Skeptics Society and edits Science-Based Medicine, a blog that has been critical of what it calls "pseudoscience" done in support of alternative therapies such as acupuncture and herbal remedies. "These are pretty basic science-based claims."

Some participants in last week's training session said they don't need science to prove what they know from personal experience.

"I suffer from depression, and I think yoga really helps me," said Sasha Lord, a 27-year-old Girl Scouts field director. "It's an urban survival skill."



THE WASHINGTON POST

High School students practice yoga on the George Washington University campus. The class, for students in Upward Bound, a program that prepares low-income youths for college, is part of a growing movement to take yoga beyond its reputation as boutique exercise for the well-to-do.



## Life &amp; Style

## TRAVELOGUE

Coldest summer in  
*San Francisco*

California and a bit of Nevada in 19 days

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

haidee\_eugenio@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER*First of a series*

What San Francisco lacks in warmth even during most summer days, it makes up for in the warmth and friendliness of its people and, to some extent, the visitors who are charmed by the city.

The city's chilly summer fog and longer daylight—the sun could still be up past 8:30 at night—are fascinating for someone who has lived in tropical places.

In my 19 days in California (and hours in Nevada) this summer, the coldest I had been to was a night in San Francisco's Twin Peaks, so called for its virtually identical summits. At an elevation of 922 feet, it has a sweeping view of the city. It was impossible to snap some shots—even ugly ones—when your hands are shaking, thanks to the fog and wind. My knees were wobbling and my body was shivering in cold as I set out to marvel at the city's glittering

skyline at night.

While the famous quote, "the coldest winter I ever spent was a summer in San Francisco," is still being disputed—whether it was Mark Twain or someone else—what's undisputed is the city's billowing white fog and overcast skies in the summer.

When the disorienting cold at Twin Peaks became unbearable for me, I ran back to the car. But

**See COLDEST on Next Page**



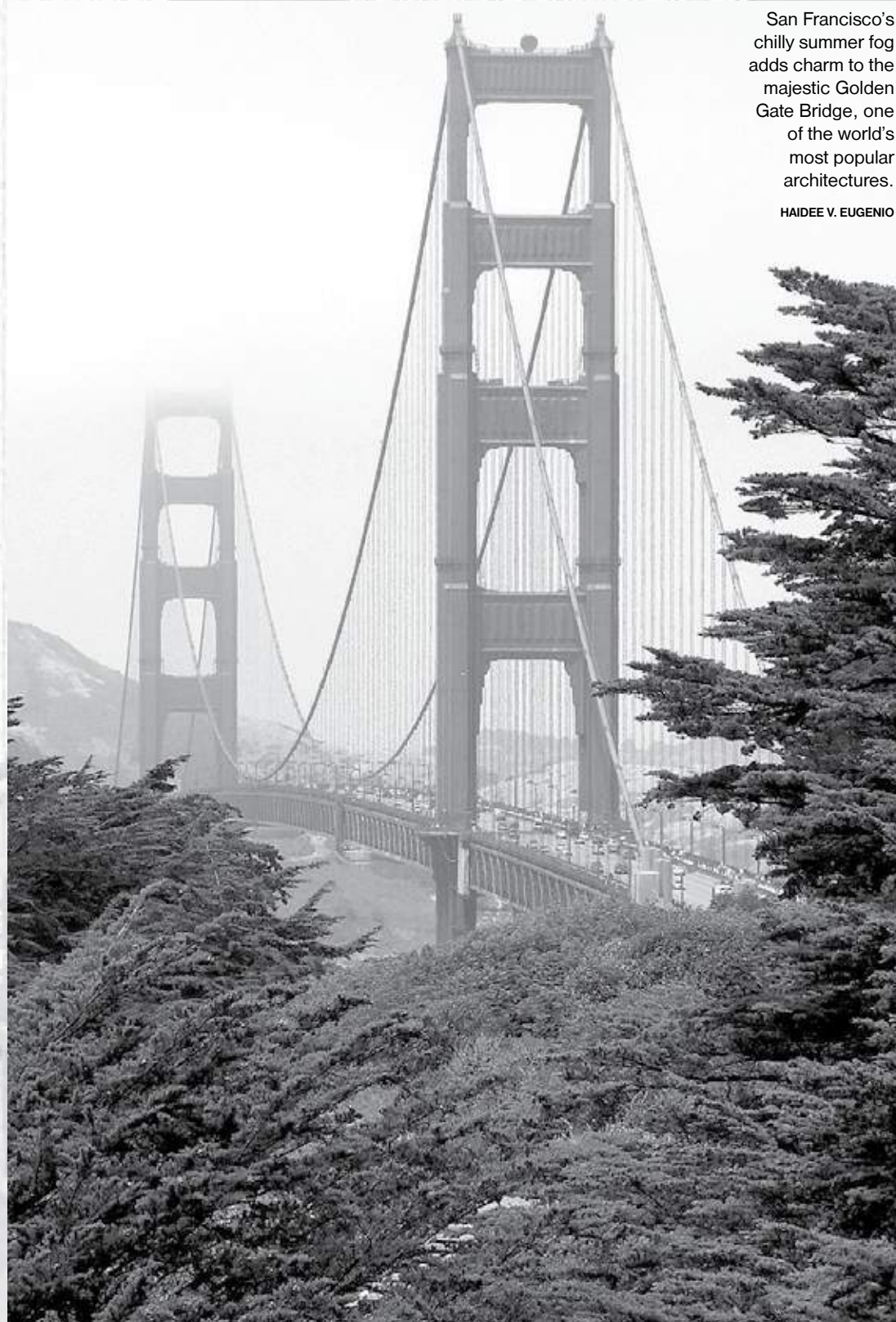
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

It's my turn to have my photo taken. This is in front of San Francisco's domed City Hall.



HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Details of the Roman and Greek architecture-inspired Palace of Fine Arts in San Francisco's Marina District.



San Francisco's chilly summer fog adds charm to the majestic Golden Gate Bridge, one of the world's most popular architectures.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO



## COLDEST

From Page 17

the warmth inside paled in comparison to the warmth and graciousness shown by my dear friend Marvin, who gave me an incredible tour of San Francisco's highlights. Listening to his anecdotes about most of these spots was like reading pages of a Lonely Planet or Let's Go.

The first on the tour's imaginary list was crossing the Bay Bridge to Treasure Island just to have an unobstructed view of the San Francisco skyline and a glimpse of the majestic Golden Gate Bridge, before exploring the city itself.

A lack of parking is such a problem that it took us some time to set out a walking tour of the Fisherman's Wharf where food, the bay, the seals, people watching, the street shows and gimmickry, and a view of Alcatraz—once touted as the nation's most famous penitentiary—never fail to amuse and amaze anyone.

We hiked to another city landmark, the Coit Tower atop Telegraph Hill. It was exhausting, but the reward is a panoramic 360-degree view of the city below and reliving the memories of our hikes and treks on Saipan.

Lombard Street, the world's most crooked street, is another must-see. I've never thought that I'd drive on this often photographed street I saw for the first time only on a calendar at home when I was still a second or third grader.

The steep, scenic streets of Russian Hill were a treat, especially with the signature Victorian and Edwardian houses that render an Old World charm to a cosmopolitan city. Famous among these architectural grandeurs are the Seven Painted Ladies, with the San Francisco skyline in the background, near Alamo Square.

Hours later, we set out to Twin Peaks where, as I said, I had my "coldest summer," followed by a stroll in China Town where we had dinner, and a walkthrough of Little Italy for a cup of Cappuccino. San Francisco's tallest building at 853 feet, Transamerica Pyramid, could be seen from Grand Hyatt's window in Union Square, along with many other skyscrapers whose upper parts were covered by fog the following morning.

We stopped in front of the Baroque domed City Hall in the Civic Center to snap some shots. The War Memorial Opera House is on the opposite side. We then drove to the Seven Painted Ladies. (Nearby, on 17th Street, was the setting for America's old favorite "Full House," which former *Saipan Tribune* reporter Kristi Eaton and I visited a day before I was set to leave the mainland.) We then drove to the Haight-Ashbury District, famous for its role as a center of the 1960s hippie movement.

Next on the imaginary list was a drive-through of the Golden Gate Park, which is not only the city's biggest, but also the largest developed city park in the world. We passed by the De Young Fine Arts Museum, the Japanese Tea Garden, the Palace of Fine Arts, and the California Academy of Sciences. Days later, I was able to explore the

last two with friends Marconi Calindas and Aldwin Fajardo, former *Saipan Tribune* reporter and editor, respectively. I also got to explore some of the areas I initially only drove to or passed by, like Embarcadero, Union Square, the Financial District and the Mission, the city's Latino quarter. The latter was where Kristi and I, and later Marconi, met up with Michael Mann, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency program manager for the CNMI, for a night of stories, drinking, dancing, and walking. We also passed by the 1782 adobe Mission Dolores which is the oldest building in the city.

The windswept shoreline of Land's End took Marvin and I to a short trek down to the only cave open at the time, before heading out near the foggy Golden Gate Bridge to take more photos. We then drove back to Mountain View, where my dear cousin Ate Ochie, her husband Kuya Matt and their lovely kids, Kamea and Maya, live.

A few days later, I went back to San Francisco by CalTrain. Marconi and Adam Cafege met me at the station and so began hours of catching up and sightseeing. With Aldwin joining us later, we braved the chilly wind to walk onto the world famous Golden Gate Bridge. It was exhilarating! At the time of completion in 1937, it was the longest suspended bridge in the whole world but has since been surpassed by eight other bridges. The stately Palace of Fine Arts, inspired by Roman and Greek architecture, was such a nice place to have one's photos taken. I did just that.

Before darkness fell, we went to Castro, where they say night life could never be dull even if you're there only for curiosity's sake. Seemed so, what with happy hour at Toad Hall, dinner and comedy show at Harvey's, and hours of dancing and people watching at Badlands? The following day was spent falling in line for over two hours outside in the cold for free admission to the California Academy of Sciences, and shoe shopping at Union Square in the afternoon. Watching "Public Enemies" at Sundance Cinemas and ordering Adobo at the adjacent Sundance Kitchen were a treat, after doing some writing stuff supposedly while on vacation.

We did a lot more of strolling in San Francisco, and at night, went to an art auction for the benefit of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Marconi's donated paintings were displayed and auctioned off that night. We met with another friend of Marconi's, and on yet another chilly night, we set out to Ruby Skye, probably among the best night clubs in the area for electronic music. That night, Markus Schulz, whom we later found out was a big name in DJ spinning, was on stage, which racked up the cover charge to \$30.

The allure of San Francisco has as much to do with its vibrant cultural diversity and creativity. People are courteous, friendly, and always with ready smile, which could warm up even the chilliest of summer days. And those were only my first few days and I thought I already had enough.

(To be continued)



HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

View outside Coit Tower.



HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

San Francisco's Bay Bridge.



HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Sun-bathing seals are among the tourist attractions at the Fisherman's Wharf in San Francisco.



HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Motorists negotiate the world's most crooked street—Lombard Street—found in San Francisco.



HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

The Seven Painted Ladies near Alamo Square are among the most popular of Victorian and Edwardian houses in San Francisco.



HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

A cast skeleton of a Tyrannosaurus Rex, the largest meat-eating dinosaur when they still roamed the earth, dwarfs visitors to the California Academy of Sciences at the Golden Gate Park in San Francisco. The academy is one of the 10 largest museums of natural history in the world.



# Billy Mays' family: Never saw signs of cocaine use

**TAMPA, Fla. (AP)**—The family of TV pitchman Billy Mays said they were never aware that he used cocaine or other non-prescription drugs before his death and they were considering whether to have an independent review of an official autopsy.

The Hillsborough County medical examiner's office released the results of its autopsy on Friday, finding that cocaine use had contributed to the heart disease that suddenly killed the 50-year-old in June. He was discovered by his wife in bed at their Tampa condo the morning of June 28.

Mays was a pop-culture fixture with his energetic commercials pitching gadgets and cleaning products like Orange Glo and OxiClean.

While heart disease was the primary cause of his death, the medical examiner listed cocaine as a "contributory cause of death."

The medical examiner "concluded that cocaine use caused or contributed to the development of his heart disease, and thereby contributed to his death," the office said in a press release.

The office said Mays last used cocaine in the few days before his death but was not under



AP  
In this Dec. 6, 2002 file photo, TV pitchman Billy Mays poses with some of his cleaning products at his Palm Harbor, Fla., home.

said in a statement.

The statement said the family was "extremely disappointed" by the release of the information. They said the report "contains speculative conclusions that are frankly unnecessary and tend to obscure the conclusion that Billy suffered from chronic, untreated hypertension, which only demonstrates how important it is to regularly monitor one's health."

Longtime friend and colleague AJ Khubani, founder and CEO of the "As Seen on TV" product company Telebrands, said Mays never showed any signs of drug use and was always prepared for his many commercial shoots.

"I'm just shocked," Khubani said. "He was the model of a responsible citizen."

Mays, a McKees Rocks, Pa., native, developed his style demonstrating knives, mops and other "As Seen on TV" gadgets on Atlantic City's boardwalk. For years he worked as a hired gun on the state fair and home show circuits, attracting crowds with his booming voice and genial manner.

He got his start on TV on the Home Shopping Network and then branched out into commercials and infomercials. He developed such a strong following that he became the subject of a reality TV series, Discovery Channel's "Pitchmen."

the influence of the drug when he died. Hillsborough County spokeswoman Lori Hudson said nothing in the toxicology report indicated the frequency of Mays' cocaine use.

Cocaine can raise the arterial blood pressure, directly cause thickening of the left wall of the ventricle and accelerate the formation of atherosclerosis in the coronary arteries, the release said.

The toxicology tests also showed therapeutic amounts of painkillers hydrocodone, oxy-

codone and tramadol, as well as anti-anxiety drugs alprazolam and diazepam. Mays had suffered hip problems and was scheduled for hip-replacement surgery the day after he was found dead.

Mays' family questioned the finding of cocaine and criticized the medical examiner's officer for issuing the report.

"We were totally unaware of any non-prescription drug usage and are actively considering an independent evaluation of the autopsy results," Mays' family

## Beatles fans swarm Abbey Road on album anniversary

**LONDON (AP)**—Hundreds of Beatles fans swarmed Abbey Road on Saturday, singing songs and snarling traffic to mark 40 years since John, Paul, George and Ringo strode across the leafy north London street and into the history books on iconic pop photos.

The famous photo graced the cover of the Fab Four's "Abbey Road," the last album recorded together, and shows the bandmates walking purposefully across the zebra-striped asphalt.

It remains one of music's best-known album covers, endlessly imitated and parodied. Although the shoot itself only took a few minutes, so carefully studied was the cover for signs and symbolism that some die-hard fans came to the conclusion that Paul McCartney—who appears barefoot and out of step with the rest—had secretly died.

McCartney himself made fun of the bizarre conspiracy in the title of his 1993 concert album, "Paul is Live."

Conspiracies aside, the ease with which fans can imitate the scene has drawn throngs of tourists to the site every day, turning the street into "a shrine to the Beatles," said Richard Porter, who owns the nearby Beatles



AP  
A tribute band dressed as members of British band, the Beatles, walk across the famous pedestrian crossing on Abbey Road, in London, in a recreation of the Beatles' Abbey Road album cover as hundreds of people gathered to mark the 40th anniversary of the album, Saturday, Aug. 8, 2009.

Coffee Shop and organized Saturday's event.

Crowds spilled into the street, cameramen jostled for angles, and exasperated drivers honked their horns.

"I didn't expect so many people to be here," said German visitor Tschale Haas, 50, who was dressed in a Sgt. Pepper jacket.

Abbey Road, which cuts through London's well-to-do neighborhood of St. John's Wood, is home to the eponymous studios where the group recorded much of its work.

The group decided to shoot the photograph in August 1969 while recording music for the last time together. For the shot, photographer Iain Macmillan stood on a stepladder and police held up traffic while the Beatles walked back and forth across the street.

The enduring popularity of the site has caused headaches for local authorities, who have had to move the Abbey Road street sign up out of reach to prevent theft and repaint the wall every three months to hide fans' graffiti.

## Ben Stein loses *NY Times* column over endorsement

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Monotone TV personality Ben Stein has been stripped of his *Sunday New York Times* business column because of his work as a pitchman for a credit monitoring company.

*New York Times* spokeswoman Catherine Mathis released a statement Friday that said the newspaper decided it would not be appropriate for Stein to pitch for FreeScore.com while writing his column.

An e-mail requesting comment from the former host of Comedy Central's "Win Ben Stein's Money" quiz show was not immediately returned.

Earlier this year, Stein withdrew as the University of Vermont's commencement speaker over complaints about his critical views of evolution in favor of intelligent design.

Stein famously played the part of a monotone economics teacher in "Ferris Bueller's Day Off."



AP  
In this Nov. 12, 2007 file photo, Ben Stein is interviewed in New York.

### DEATH & FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

† **GONZALO  
QUITUGUA  
SANTOS**

August 13, 1940 - August 04, 2009

#### In his new life, he now joins his:

Parents : †Enrique Borja Santos  
†Dolores Quitugua Mendiola

Sisters : †Rosa Borja Santos  
†Maria Concepcion (Mako) Rachuba

#### His memory will live forever in the hearts of his:

Wife : **Olympia Reyes Santos**

Children : **Rebecca R. Santos** ( Ryan, Jessica, & Jesse Jr.)  
**Geraldine R. Santos** ( Willow, Kenzie, & Gabriel ) & Chris O. Tudela  
John R. & **Corinne H. Santos** ( Eleina, Kristian, Annalei, Aleia & Janessa )  
**James R. Santos** ( Danyal, Jaron, Anissa, Jaiden, & Ly'ia Raven )

#### Brothers / Sisters / In-Laws:

Anna Borja Witter, Virginia Santos , Maria Patrocinio (Chinang) & Ralph Walls, Roman Pedro Delos Santos, Adela Santos, Ricardo Santos, May Delos Santos.

Daily mass of intention is being celebrated at 6:00am at Kristo Rai Church.

On Wednesday, August 12, 2009, Responso Service will be at 7:00am at Nuestra Senora dela Paz Memorial Chapel. Recitation of the Holy Rosary starts at 7:30am and immediately followed by public viewing and last respects. At 9:45am, his remains will be escorted to Kristo Rai Church for the Mass of Christian Burial scheduled at 10:00am. Interment follows immediately at Mount Carmel Cemetery.

Thank you

**THE FAMILY**



# Jackson show insurance excluded 'illicit' drug use

**L**OS ANGELES (AP)—A concert promoter's insurance on Michael Jackson's London shows has provisions that may deny a multimillion-dollar payout if the pop star was found to have illegally possessed drugs or was involved in the "illicit taking of drugs."

The policy, a copy of which was provided Friday to The Associated Press, covers cancellations resulting from death, but its provisions will hinge on the results of an autopsy that has been delayed twice.

Jackson's doctor administered multiple sedatives along with the powerful anesthetic propofol, a potentially lethal combination, hours before the singer died June 25, a law enforcement official who requested anonymity because the death investigation is ongoing told the AP.

It was not immediately clear whether any medications Jackson was taking would negate a payout up to \$17.5 million, which would ultimately benefit his estate.

The insurance policy, covering the first 13 shows of the 50-show run, was taken out by Jackson and concert promoter AEG Live in April. Such a policy and its provisions are considered stan-



In this handout photo provided by AEG, pop star Michael Jackson rehearses at the Staples Center in Los Angeles on Tuesday, June 23, 2009.

dard for events on the scale of the one for which Jackson was preparing.

A copy of the insurance policy also showed that it had several clauses that would prevent a payout, including if the singer concealed information or acted carelessly to increase the risk of a no-show.

A claim could take months to resolve

through a settlement or in court, and either route could be delayed as police investigate a manslaughter charge.

A New York doctor with no connection to AEG Live conducted a medical exam of Jackson in Los Angeles in February. AEG Live Chief Executive Randy Phillips said he was told by the insurance underwriter that Jackson passed "with flying colors." The exam results were shown to the insurers, but not to AEG Live.

AEG Live and the special administrators of Jackson's estate have been moving quickly to cut business deals that will help the concert promoter recoup the more than \$30 million it is currently owed by his estate. An insurance payout would go a long way to reducing the estate's obligation to AEG Live.

The promoter is also in line to quickly cover its costs if a \$60 million payment from Sony Corp.'s movie division to distribute a film based on rehearsal footage is approved by a court Monday.

Also in the works for court approval is a merchandising deal with Bravado, a unit of Vivendi SA's Universal Music Group, which had signed a deal with AEG Live in July and has been selling Jackson goods online since then.

The estate is in line to receive 90 percent of the proceeds from the business deals after AEG Live's initial costs have been covered, according to documents filed in court this week.

## Judge approves Jackson collectors' items

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—The King of Pop is coming to calendars and collectors' coin cases after a judge approved several deals involving the singer's estate on Friday.

Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Mitchell Beckloff signed off on agreements for Jackson-themed items including calendars, school supplies, posters and a commemorative coin. He also granted authority so that reprints of Jackson's autobiography "Moonwalk" can be sold in China, Korea and several Eastern European countries.

Beckloff also agreed to allow Jackson's estate to partner with Apple's iTunes to sell songs and videos of Jermaine Jackson's performance of the Charlie Chaplin song "Smile" at the pop singer's public memorial.

The deals were presented to the judge by the current administrators of Jackson's estate, attorney John Branca and music executive John McClain. Financial details of the agreements were not disclosed.

They offer a hint at Jackson's post-death marketability, and a pending

deal may bring even more Jackson-themed merchandise to store shelves and electronics.

Beckloff has scheduled a hearing on Monday to decide whether to approve other deals involving Jackson, including a movie project that would feature the singer's final rehearsals and preparations for a series of comeback concerts in London.

Columbia Pictures has agreed to pay \$60 million for the rights to footage shot for Jackson's "This is It" concerts, but the deal must be approved by Monday. The extra time was granted to give the singer's mother, Katherine Jackson, time to consider the proposed contracts and voice any opposition to them.

Beckloff is also considering a deal between the estate and merchandiser Bravado for worldwide distribution rights to several Jackson-themed products, including trading cards, apparel, lighters, stuffed animals that play Jackson's music and digital games such as "Second Life."

The deals remain an important piece of the Jackson's financial puzzle

and could offset potential losses by concert promoter AEG Live, which spent more than \$30 million organizing the singer's 50-show comeback in London. A copy of an insurance policy covering the first 13 of Jackson's shows states it did not cover cancellations if the singer was found to have illegally possessed drugs or was involved in the "illicit taking of drugs."

Authorities are focusing on drugs administered to Jackson in the hours before his death, according to law enforcement officials not authorized to speak publicly. It remains unclear whether the drugs given to Jackson would nullify the policy, which could pay out up to \$17.5 million.

An attorney for Branca and McClain stated in a court filing earlier this week that the deals are expected to bring Jackson's estate tens of millions of dollars.

Jackson died June 25 in Los Angeles and was heavily in debt. His music returned to the top of the charts in the weeks after his death, and attorneys for the current administrators of his estate have said they are hoping to quickly approve several deals to maximize profits from interest in Jackson's life.

Jackson's assets are being placed into a private trust. His three children and Katherine Jackson, who is their guardian, are slated to receive 80 percent of the superstar's estate, with the rest going to unnamed charities.

## Report: Jackson children's godfather claims paternity

**LONDON** (AP)—A British tabloid reported Saturday that the godfather of Michael Jackson's three children claims to be the father of the singer's daughter Paris.

The News of the World quotes Jackson's longtime friend Mark Lester as saying that he "gave Michael my sperm so that he could have kids—and I believe Paris is my daughter."

The newspaper also quotes Lester, is a 51-year-old former child star known for his lead role in the 1968 movie version of the state show "Oliver!" as saying he's willing to take a paternity test.

In a video interview with Lester broadcast on the News of the World Web site, Lester said he donated his sperm at a London clinic. He said Jackson was married to Debbie Rowe at the time.

"She's the birth mother of the children so I naturally assumed the sperm donation would obviously have gone into Debbie and Debbie would have borne the children," he said.

He said Paris resembled his own 15-year-old daughter Harriet.

Rowe said he had made the revela-



This July 7, 2009 file photo shows Katherine Jackson, right, arriving with Michael Jackson's daughter, Paris, rear center, to the memorial service for the late pop star in Los Angeles.

tions because he has "concerns about the welfare and upbringing of the children."

"It's a contact issue," he said on the video. "I dearly want to remain in contact with those kids and I feel now this is the only way I can ensure that."

Jackson and Lester became friends 27 years ago when Jackson's manager told Lester the singer wanted to meet him. Lester lives in Cheltenham, about 100 miles (160 kilometers) west of London.

## Wife of Monkee Micky Dolenz arrested in NYC

**NEW YORK** (AP)—The wife of Monkees vocalist Micky Dolenz pleaded guilty Friday to charges that she defrauded a public housing program in New York City.

Authorities in the city's Department of Investigation said Donna Quinter, 54, illegally received \$136,866 in government rental subsidies for an apartment on Manhattan's Upper East Side.

The subsidies were supposed to go to middle-income families who were in danger of being forced out of a rent-regulated apartment building that was being converted into luxury condominiums.

Investigators say Quinter failed to disclose that she was sharing the apartment with a friend who paid rent. The home also wasn't her only residence. Since marrying Dolenz in 2002, the former flight attendant has lived with her husband in Bell Canyon, Calif., an exclusive gated community outside Los Angeles.

Quinter surrendered to authorities in New York on Friday morning, then resolved the case in a matter of hours. She wrote out a check to the city for the full \$136,866, went before a judge in Manhattan and pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor larceny charge, then received her sentence: five days of community service.

Her lawyer, Bridget Rohde, didn't return phone and e-mail messages Friday.

New York City has a number of programs designed to allow middle class families to pay reduced rents in homes they have occupied for a long period of time.

Fraud, however, is common. In

some cases, people hold on to their apartments even after they have moved out of the city, either using them as vacation homes or secretly renting them out.

The Department of Investigation, a city law enforcement agency that probes fraud and other abuses in



In this April 22, 2009 file photo, Monkees vocalist Micky Dolenz and wife Donna Quinter attend the 2009 Tribeca Film Festival opening premiere of 'Whatever Works' at the Ziegfeld Theater in New York.

government programs and agencies, discovered Quinter's eligibility problems after it began examining who was getting subsidies in her building in 2008.

"Law abiding New Yorkers struggling to pay their rents and mortgages cannot afford to subsidize cheaters who abuse public housing resources to support privileged lifestyles," the department's commissioner, Rose Gill Hearn, said in a written statement.

Dolenz isn't accused of any wrongdoing.



# Aerosmith guitarist: Tyler broke shoulder in fall

**CHICAGO (AP)**—Aerosmith lead singer Steven Tyler has a broken shoulder and stitches in his head after falling from the stage during a South Dakota concert, and the band plans to discuss what that means for the future of its current tour, guitarist Joe Perry said Friday.

Perry told The Associated Press after a stop at a Chicago radio station that Tyler has been flown to Boston and was meeting with his own doctor. Perry did not have further details on Tyler's condition and calls to representatives went unanswered Friday.

Tyler, 61, fell several feet while dancing around as the sound crew replaced a fuse that blew during the song "Love in an Elevator" at the Buffalo Chip Campground, which hosted the Wednesday night concert during the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally in western South Dakota. An amateur video showed him spinning around before falling off the stage.

Perry said Friday that his back was turned when Tyler fell, so he didn't see the lead singer go down. Perry said he hadn't had a chance to talk with Tyler yet and wasn't sure what made him lose his balance.

"I've seen it a thousand times, him dancing or just twirling around, doing a somersault, he's really agile, so I don't know," Perry said. "We're like kinda still in shock. What can you say? It's stuff that could happen to anybody."

The guitarist says band members planned to talk Friday about the tour. A show in Winnipeg, Canada, already was postponed but Perry said he wasn't sure what would happen with the re-



Vocalist Steven Tyler of the rock band Aerosmith performs at the Verizon Wireless Amphitheatre in this June 10, 2009 file photo taken in Maryland Heights, Mo.

maining 18 tour dates. The band's Web site didn't mention other cancellations Friday evening.

"After we get on the phone call ... there will be some announcement that will give us some kind of idea what the future's gonna hold," Perry said during his interview on Chicago radio station WLUP-FM.

Since Tyler's fall, Perry said he decided to ride the tour bus home and stop at radio stations along the way to play some work from his upcoming solo album, "Have Guitar Will Travel."

Perry said the band had to cancel only a couple of concerts during its first 25 years but has had a run of bad luck the last three years.

On June 28, Tyler hurt his leg at a concert in Uncasville, Conn., and the band had to postpone seven shows in July. Tyler also battled pneumonia before the tour began in June, while Perry fought a knee infection.

## Father-in-law's fish story reveals his true character

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: Two weeks ago, I went on a fishing trip with my father-in-law. It was great. I caught the biggest fish of my life. I kept it so I could have it mounted when I returned home.

When we arrived back at my in-laws', my father-in-law took the fish out of the cooler and claimed he had caught it. At first, I thought he was joking, but now he's planning on having the fish mounted!

I didn't want to make him look bad in front of his daughter and his wife, but I am furious. My wife thinks I'm overreacting, but this really is the big one that got away. Should I confront him and call his bluff?

SOMETHING'S FISHY IN NEW YORK

**DEAR SOMETHING'S FISHY:** If you were going to confront your father-in-law, you should have done so as soon as he took credit for catching your fish. Instead of being "furious," be grateful that you now have a clear insight into the man's character. That he would lie about something like this calls into question anything that has ever—or will ever—come out of his mouth.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My 8-year-old nephew was diagnosed with autism at the age of 3. He has made amazing progress with therapy and has advanced so he is practically functioning at his age level.

Our entire family has teamed up and joined a charity that raises money for autism. We have devoted our time and energy to this important cause. My sister (my nephew's mother) refuses to get involved! She says she is "too busy."

We all work and have other activities, yet we still make time to devote to this cause. She doesn't work and has no other responsibilities outside her family that prohibit her from participating. She says raising money isn't something she likes to do.

I don't have much time for it either, but our family MAKES the time because this cause is important to us. It makes me furious that she won't help raise money for her own child's disorder. How can I talk to her about this without seeming confrontational?

RAISING MONEY IN FLORIDA

**DEAR RAISING MONEY:** I urge you to refrain from doing so. For heaven's sake, your sister is the mother of a child who is working hard to overcome a disorder. She has a full-time job—one that lasts 24 hours a day, seven days a week. She is not malingering, so stop judging her.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I am a happily married woman. Fifteen years ago, I was married to another man I'll call "Mario." Mario and I divorced after four years and ended it as friends.

Mario and I have both been in the restaurant business separately as well as together. Mario called me two days ago and asked me if he could hire me for his newest venture because he knows what a good manager I am. When I mentioned it to my present husband, he was adamantly against it.

Do you see anything wrong with my working with my ex?

"CYNDIE" IN SOUTH FLORIDA

**DEAR "CYNDIE":** I don't—but obviously your present husband does, because he's threatened by the idea. It appears you have an important decision to make. Which is more important to you—the job, or keeping peace in your marriage?

■ ■ ■

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

■ ■ ■

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." To order, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

## Beckham on hand as 'Idol' resumes post-Paula

**DENVER (AP)**—There was no Paula, but there was a Posh.

Victoria Beckham was on hand Friday for the first round of "American Idol" auditions in the post-Paula Abdul era. The former Spice Girl arrived at a downtown Denver hotel where call-back auditions were being held as scores of onlookers crowded against rope barriers, many snapping photos.

Fox, which airs the popular singing show, said Beckham and Katy Perry would be guest judges in Abdul's place. But it wasn't immediately clear whether Beckham did any judging Friday, and "Idol" spokeswoman Alex Gillespie declined to say what her role was. Perry was

ing "Idol" after eight seasons. She would not discuss details about her "Idol" exit Thursday in a phone interview, nor would she address whether the door was still open for a return.

Lilly Scott, a contestant at the Denver auditions, told KDVR-TV in Denver that the show was "kind of lame" without Abdul. "I was really excited, but three is still good," she said.

Beckham and host Ryan Seacrest were the first to arrive at the Denver hotel Friday. Seacrest chatted with fans and posed for pictures. He grabbed the cell phone of a woman who was taking video of him, aimed at her for a few seconds, then shook her hand and returned the phone.

Randy Jackson and Simon Cowell arrived last, and the crowd grew boisterous, some chanting "We love you Simon!"

Wearing his trademark white shirt and aviator sunglasses, Cowell joked with fans and shook hands.

"Why don't you call me anymore?" he teased one woman. "I thought we were friends."

One fan shouted, "I love how mean you are."

"Good," Simon replied. "I'll be mean today."

Melinda Doolittle, an "Idol" fan favorite who finished third in the show's sixth season, said on her blog Friday that Abdul's departure made her "incredibly sad."

Each judge has a role, Doolittle wrote, "But Paula ... sweet Paula, is the heart ... the artist ... the mama ... the one who understands what you're going through and empathizes with you."

## ABC wants Paula Abdul to dance on over post-'Idol'



In this March 5, 2009 file photo, "American Idol" judge Paula Abdul arrives at the American Idol Top 13 Party in Los Angeles. Fox said Tuesday Aug. 4, 2009.

**PASADENA, Calif. (AP)**—ABC is joining the chorus of those seeking to hire Paula Abdul, who said she's quitting "American Idol."

ABC programming chief Stephen McPherson told the Television Critics Association on Saturday that he was "stunned" to hear she'd decided to leave the top-rated Fox series and that he's contacted Abdul, whom he called an old friend.

McPherson told Abdul he'd love to see her at ABC, home of "Dancing with the Stars."

Abdul announced last Tuesday she was leaving as an "Idol" judge following stalemated contract talks with Fox and the show's producers. She said she quickly started receiving "wonderful" offers.



Victoria Beckham greets fans as she arrives at a hotel in Denver, Colo., on Friday, Aug. 7, 2009, for a guest judging appearance on a call back audition for the American Idol show.

nowhere to be seen.

Judge Kara DioGuardi arrived in a limo wearing a black dress, telling local Fox affiliate KDVR that she was wearing black to mourn Abdul's absence. DioGuardi called Abdul her mentor and the heart of the show.

"She was very kind, she showed me the ropes, so I have to give her the props for that," DioGuardi said. "I hope she is happy and I hope she reconsiders."

Abdul announced this week she was leav-







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### IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

DONALD BUFTON, : CIVIL ACTION  
Plaintiff : NO. 04-0043

-v-  
SAMUEL RAYBURN, :  
Defendant, :

**FIFTH AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to a Writ of Execution issued by the Court in this matter on October 12, 2007, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendant in and to the following property:

1. Lot No 012 B 08, situated in Calabera, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing 39,297 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 012 B 01, which was registered with the Land Registry as Document No. 1466 on the 15th of March, 1972.
2. Tract 22609 (formerly H-65), situated in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 10,845 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 2165/74, the original of which was registered June 15, 1976 as Land Registry Document No. 5272.
3. Tract 22610 (formerly H-65 A), situated in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 13,558 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 2164/74, the original of which was registered June 15, 1976 as Land Registry Document No. 5272.
4. Lot E.A. 579, situated in Lualau, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 10,056 square meters, more or less, being situated in Land Square Seven, Section R, Units u and v, and Land Square Ten, Section 1, Units a and b, as shown on APWO Drawings No. 11411 and 11414 on file with the Clerk of Courts (being all that property conveyed by that Grant of Public Domain from the Government of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands to Joaquin I. Pangelinan executed April 18, 1956 and filed April 25, 1956 at the Clerk of Courts).
5. Tract/Lot No. H-378, situated in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 27,537 square meters, more or less, as shown on Division of Lands & Surveys Official survey platno. 2136/89 dated August 10, 1989, Commonwealth Recorder's File No. 89-2641, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference.
6. Tract/Lot No. H-378 "A", situated in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 1,585 square meters, more or less, as shown on Division of Lands & Surveys Official survey plat no. 2136/89 dated August 10, 1989, Commonwealth Recorder's File No. 89-2641, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference.
7. Lot 001 C 10, situated in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 9,999 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 001 C 01, the original of which was recorded with the Commonwealth Recorder on March 20, 1980, as Document No. 9811.
8. Lot 001 C 16 (part of original Lot 001 C 06), situated in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 14,579 square meters more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 001 C 04, the original of which was recorded with the Commonwealth Recorder on June 13, 1986 as Document No. 86-1187.
9. Lot 012 J 13, Parcel "A", situated in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, consisting of the northern portion of Lot 012 J 13, and containing an area of 2,319 square meters, more or less.

**Date, Time, and Place of Sale.** The sale will be held on Friday, August 14, 2009, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at the Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

**Terms and Conditions of Sale.** The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 16th day of July, 2009:

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

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**Attorneys for Plaintiff  
Bank of Guam**

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT  
OF THE  
COMMONWEALTH OF THE  
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

**BANK OF GUAM, )  
Plaintiff, )  
VS. )  
CELESTE S. MENDIOLA, )  
Defendant. )**

**TO DEFENDANT CELESTE S.  
MENDIOLA:**

**YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED** and notified to file with the Clerk of Court for the CNMI Superior Court, any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, within twenty-one (21) days after the fourth publication of this Amended Summons, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to Atty. Gregory J. Koebel, Law firm of O'Connor Berman Dotts & Banes, Attorney for Plaintiff, at the 2nd floor, Marianas Business Plaza, P.O. Box 501969, Saipan, MP 96950, as soon as practicable after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of this Court for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court. It may be prepared and signed for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to file an Answer in accordance with this Amended Summons, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

Dated this day of 23<sup>rd</sup> day of July, 2009.

/s/ Clerk of Court

SECOND OF FOUR ISSUES

## CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

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• 5-Liner	<b>\$35</b>
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Saturday Issue:  
- Saipan Tribune: All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

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#### Classified Ads

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### REFUNDS

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Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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# Sabathia steers Yankees over Red Sox



**NEWYORK (AP)—** New York pitcher C.C. Sabathia didn't

allow a runner past second base, holding the Boston Red Sox scoreless in the Yankees 5-0 win Saturday over their eternal American League rival.

Sabathia pitched into the eighth without giving up a run, and didn't concede a hit until the final out of the sixth.

New York has won six straight, including back-to-back wins over Boston, having previously been winless against the Red Sox this season. Saturday's result opened a 5-1/2 game lead for the Yankees atop the AL East.

## Angels 3, Rangers 2

At Anaheim, California, Los Angeles edged Texas to extend its lead in the AL West standings.

Angels pitcher Jered Weaver matched a career high with 11 strikeouts as Los Angeles opened a 4-1/2 game lead over the Rangers.

Weaver pitched into the eighth inning for the first time in his past 10 starts, allowing two runs and winning his fifth straight decision.

## Rays 10, Mariners 4

In Seattle, Tampa Bay broke open the game in the latter innings to record a comfortable win over Seattle.

With the game tied 3-3 in the fifth, Evan Longoria hit a 411-foot solo homer to put the Rays ahead. Two batters later, Carlos Pena added a two-run shot.

Tampa Bay then cushioned its lead with four runs in the eighth.

## Twins 11, Tigers 0

At Detroit, Carl Pavano threw seven scoreless innings in his Minnesota debut, guiding the Twins to a thrashing of Detroit.

It was the second time in a week that Pavano handcuffed the Tigers. Last Sunday, while still with Cleveland, he allowed only one run in eight innings.

Minnesota's Denard Span went 5 for 5 and Joe Mauer homered and drove in three runs as the Twins moved within 4-1/2 games of AL Central-leading Detroit.

## White Sox 8, Indians 5

At Chicago, Jim Thome hit a two-run shot for his 562nd career homer as Chicago came from behind to beat Cleveland.

Thome's 21st homer of the season pulled the White Sox within 4-3 in the fifth.

Gordon Beckham had a go-ahead sacrifice fly in the sixth.

Chicago moved within two games of Detroit Tigers in the tight AL Central.

## Blue Jays 3, Orioles 2, 10 innings

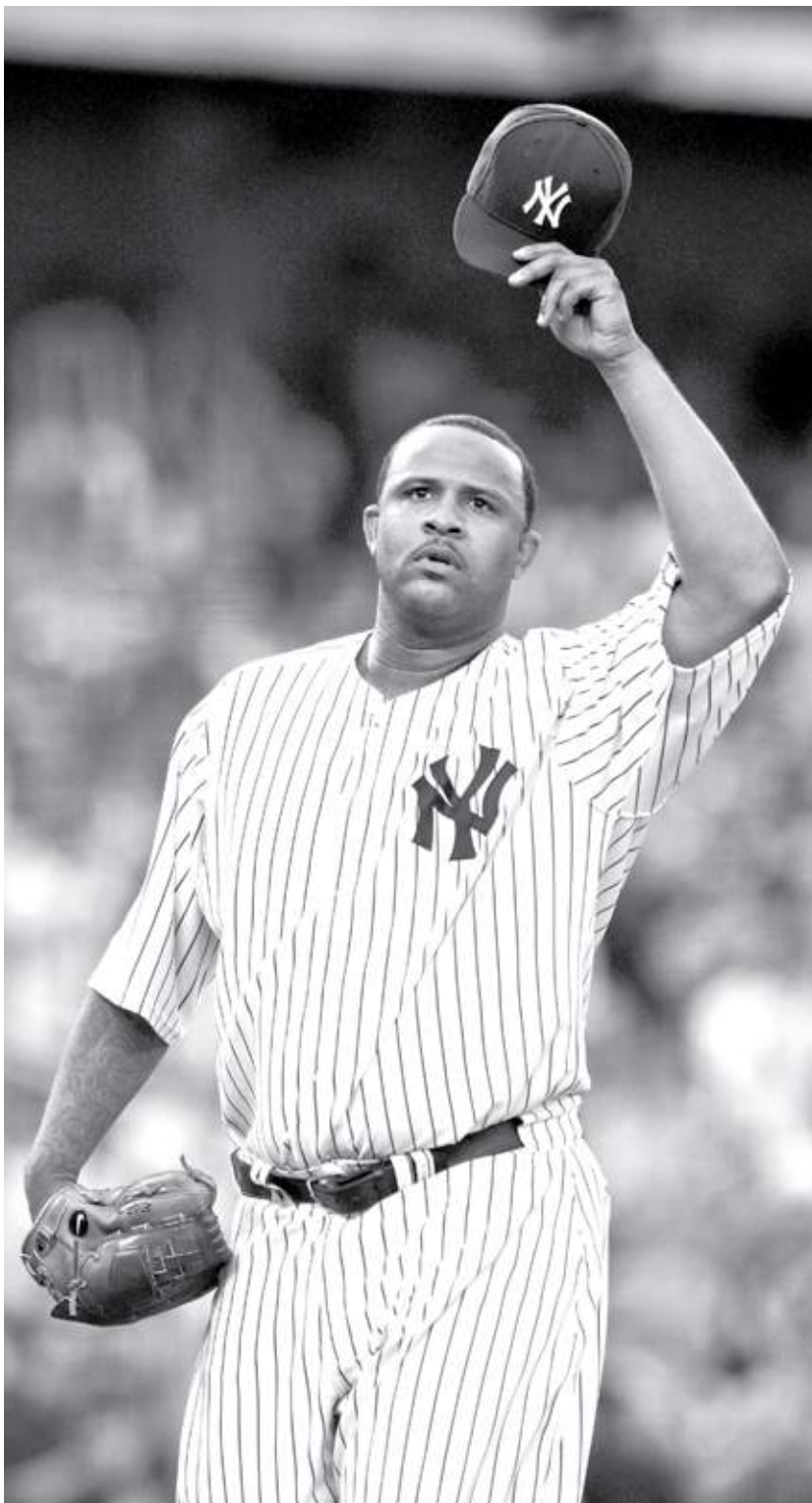
At Toronto, Adam Lind's double in the 10th inning scored the winning run, lifting Toronto over Baltimore.

Joe Inglett led off the inning with a single, and after he was forced out at second on a bunt, Aaron Hill singled just beyond the glove of the second baseman. Lind followed with a double off the wall in leftfield.

The victory snapped the Blue Jays' three-game losing skid.

## Royals 12, Athletics 6

At Kansas City, pitcher Zack Greinke earned his first win over an AL club since May, steering Kansas City



New York Yankees starting pitcher CC Sabathia gestures to the crowd as he leaves the game during the eighth inning of a baseball game against the Boston Red Sox Saturday, Aug. 8, 2009, in New York.

over Oakland.

Although Greinke leads the league with a 2.43 ERA, he was 0-5 and the Royals were winless in his previous nine starts against AL teams. Greinke went seven innings and yielded three runs. He struck out five and ranks second in the AL with 167.

Mike Jacobs and Billy Butler each drove in three runs for the Royals. Butler had three doubles and every Kansas City starter had at least one hit and scored a run.

## Braves 2, Dodgers 2

At Los Angeles, Kelly Johnson hit a two-run homer in the 10th inning to give the Atlanta Braves a win and back-to-back extra-inning victories over the National League-leading Los Angeles Dodgers.

Johnson, who came into the game in the eighth as a pinch hitter, drove a pitch a couple of rows behind the short fence in the right-field corner.

The hit came off Dodgers' pitcher Guillermo Mota, making his second appearance since last Tuesday's well-documented dust-up with Milwaukee slugger Prince Fielder.

## Marlins 6, Phillies 4

In Philadelphia, Florida edged closer to

divisional rival Philadelphia.

Cody Ross hit a go-ahead two-run homer in the sixth inning as Florida moved within five games of the NL East-leading Phillies.

Five Marlins relievers held the Phillies to one run over five innings after starter Sean West gave up three in four innings.

## Cubs 6, Rockies 5

In Denver, Colorado's run of 15 straight wins over NL Central teams was narrowly ended by Chicago.

Kosuke Fukudome and Derrek Lee homered for the Cubs, who remained a game behind St. Louis in the NL Central.

Chicago pitcher Ryan Dempster ended a four-game road skid for his first win away from Wrigley Field in four months.

## Brewers 12, Astros 5

In Houston, Prince Fielder and Mike Rivera drove in three runs apiece and Milwaukee torched Houston's bullpen.

Fielder hit his 27th home run of the season as the Brewers finished with 14 hits.

Milwaukee led 3-0 when Houston pitcher Mike Hampton left after two

innings with a sprained right knee. The Astros' bullpen gave up nine runs the rest of the way and the Brewers reached their highest run total since mid-June.

## Giants 4, Reds 2

In San Francisco, Bengie Molina homered among his three hits and drove in three runs as San Francisco downed Cincinnati.

Giants pitcher Barry Zito gave up only three hits over six innings.

Zito, who'd struggled to justify his huge salary in San Francisco, won a third straight decision for the first time in more than two years.

## Cardinals 5, Pirates 3

In Pittsburgh, Albert Pujols hit a three-run double to reach the 100 RBIs mark for the ninth consecutive time to start his career, helping St. Louis beat Pittsburgh.

Pujols, who hits better in Pittsburgh than anyone, missed a chance to break open the game when he grounded into a double play in the fifth with two on and none out. He made up for it an inning later with a bases-loaded double down the left-field line that made it 5-0.

Pujols is the only National League

player to begin his career with nine consecutive seasons of 100 or more RBIs.

Cardinals pitcher Adam Wainwright limited Pittsburgh to one run over 6 2-3 innings.

## Padres 3, Mets 1

In San Diego, rookie Mat Latos won his fourth consecutive start, leading San Diego over New York.

Latos gave up only a first inning homer in six innings since being called up from the minors. He lowered his ERA to 2.43.

Everth Cabrera, who hit a grand slam in the ninth inning of Friday night's 6-2 win over the Mets, drew a bases-loaded walk in the third inning to put the Padres ahead 2-1.

## Nationals 5, Diamondbacks 2

In Washington, the worst team in the majors suddenly can't stop winning, notching a seventh straight success by defeating Arizona.

Washington's Garrett Mock pitched six innings for his first win of the season, giving up only a two-run homer and striking out seven.

Josh Willingham hit a two-run homer for the Nationals, who have not had a longer winning streak since 2005.

## Ortiz says supplements may have landed him on 'user' list

**NEWYORK (AP)—**David Ortiz said he never knowingly used steroids and that over-the-counter supplements and vitamins likely caused him to land on a list of alleged drug users circulated by the federal government.

Major League Baseball and the players' union said just because a player's name was on the list didn't mean he used steroids.

"I definitely was a little bit careless back in those days when I was buying supplements and vitamins over the counter—legal supplements, legal vitamins over the counter—but I never buy steroids or use steroids," Ortiz said during a news conference that began about 3 1/2 hours before his Boston Red Sox played the New York Yankees.

"I never thought that buying supplements and vitamins, it was going to hurt anybody's feelings."

MLB said in a statement Saturday that at most 96 urine samples tested positive in the 2003 survey—and the players' association said 13 of those were in dispute.

*The New York Times* reported last month that Ortiz and Manny Ramirez were on the list and said in June that Sammy Sosa was on it. In February, Sports Illustrated reported Alex Rodriguez was on the list, and Rodriguez later admitted using Primobolan from 2001-03.

Ortiz said that when he met with union general counsel Michael Weiner in 2004, he wasn't told he tested positive for steroids. Weiner, who has been designated to succeed union head Donald Fehr, said that because the list is under court seal, the union can't confirm to Ortiz that he tested positive, only that he was on the list.

"We had this five-minute meeting, and it was a little confusing but I was

never told that I test(ed) positive for steroids," Ortiz said.

Dr. Gary Wadler, who heads the committee that determines the World Anti-Doping Agency's banned-substances list, said Ortiz's explanation was believable, given that before January 2005 many over-the-counter substances could cause positive tests.

"It's entirely conceivable that he was caught up in the same mentality of taking dietary supplements such as protein powders and creatine, believing he was safe as far as drug testing," Wadler said in a telephone interview with The Associated Press.

Some players past and present—notably Hall of Famer Hank Aaron—have called for the entire list to be released.

"Sure, there are some people who say 'Why don't we just get this story over with and get the list out?'" Weiner said. "I think to do that would 1) be illegal, and 2) be wrong. It's illegal because it's covered by court order, and it would be wrong because a promise was made by the commissioner's office and the union to every player who was tested in 2003 that the results would be anonymous."

Ortiz is against the list becoming public.

"I don't think that I would really like to see another player going through what I've been through this past week," he said.

The government seized the samples and records in 2004 from baseball's drug-testing companies as part of the Bay Area Laboratory Co-Operative investigation into Barry Bonds and others. The list of 104 players said to have tested positive, attached to a grand jury subpoena, is part of a five-year legal fight, with the union trying to force the government to return what federal agents took during raids.



# Distinct Bills flavor at Hall of Fame ceremony



**CANTON, Ohio (AP)**—Buffalo Bills owner Ralph Wilson loosened up the crowd with a couple of anecdotes at the Pro Football

Hall of Fame induction ceremony, and Bruce Smith finished them off with a passionate tribute to Western New York.

All that was missing were the chicken wings, because the ceremony on Saturday night had a distinct Buffalo flavor to it.

"This certainly feels like a home game," said Smith, acknowledging the chants of "BRUUUCE!" which resounded through Fawcett Stadium long before former Bills defensive end and NFL's career sacks leader took the podium as the sixth and final inductee.

Though, he played the final four years of his career in Washington, Smith's best memories came in Buffalo, where he was two-time NFL defensive player of the year and part of a Bills team that won four straight AFC titles in the early 1990s.

"In the annals of NFL history, the sum total of my career will forever be defined by the 15 years I spent playing for the Buffalo Bills. And what a ride it was," Smith said. "Now I've come full circle, by the grace of God I stand before you today, humbled and honored."

Wilson, entering the Hall 50 years since founding the Bills, also paid tribute to his team's fans for their support despite the economic troubles that have had hit the rustbelt region for the past two decades.

"I picked Buffalo and it was a lucky pick," said Wilson, who makes his home in Detroit. "Over the years, the fans have supported the team in Buffalo beyond our fondest dreams. And without that support, I wouldn't be on this platform tonight."

Also inducted were Chiefs linebacker Derrick Thomas, defensive back Rod Woodson, offensive guard Randall McDaniel and receiver Bob Hayes. Thomas, whose career was cut short in 2000 when he died following a car accident, and Hayes, who died in 2002 at age 59, were inducted posthumously.



From left to right, Rod Woodson, Randall McDaniel, Bruce Smith, Bob Hayes Jr. and Ralph Wilson Jr. stand with bronze busts during the Pro Football Hall of Fame induction ceremony at the Pro Football Hall of Fame, Saturday, Aug. 8, 2009, in Canton, Ohio. AP

Their inductions provided the most poignant moments of the 4-hour ceremony.

"For all Derrick Thomas fans, the light has gone back on," former Chiefs president Carl Peterson. "Today does culminate the life of a great NFL player, who did so much both on and off the field, a life that ended too young."

Despite playing only 11 seasons, Thomas had the most sacks of any NFL player through the 1990s. He was a nine-time Pro Bowl selection and still holds the NFL record for most sacks in a game, seven. His 126 1/2 sacks rank fourth among linebackers.

"Derrick, you're in the Pro Football Hall of Fame, and no one can ever take that away from you," Peterson said.

Hayes was introduced by his son, Bob Hayes Jr., who noted his father always wondered why it took so long for this achievement to happen.

"It hurts, because he should have been here to witness this special occasion. But unfortunately, he didn't make it to see it," Hayes said. "I know where he is, he's smiling down. He's

happy. He knows what's going on."

Nicknamed "Bullet Bob," Hayes helped revolutionize the receiver position during an 11-year career—the first 10 in Dallas, and one in San Francisco—that ended in 1975. A star track athlete who won two gold medals at the 1964 Olympics in Tokyo, Hayes' 71 career touchdown catches remain a Cowboys' record.

Woodson described himself as humbled, letting his numbers speak for themselves as during his playing days. Woodson was a triple threat during a 17-year career, in which he excelled at cornerback, safety and returning kickoffs.

The NFL's defensive player of the year in 1993, Woodson was an 11-time Pro Bowl pick and was selected to the NFL's 75th anniversary team while still playing. He appeared in three Super Bowls with three different teams—Pittsburgh, Baltimore and Oakland—and won one with the Ravens in 2001.

McDaniel was nearly lost for words, and jokingly suggested he didn't feel comfortable being up on

stage alone without four other linemen next to him.

McDaniel was a 12-time Pro Bowl selection during a 14-year career, most of it spent with Minnesota. He was part of an offensive line that helped the Vikings score a then league-record 556 points in 1998, and blocked for six 1,000-yard rushers.

As expected, there was a huge turnout of Bills fans among the announced crowd of 12,695. Bills jerseys dotted the stadium, and provided the loudest roars any mention of Buffalo. Making the weekend complete is the Bills will play Tennessee in the Hall of Fame game on Sunday.

Perhaps one of the more inventive outfits was worn by Scott Snyder of Rochester, N.Y., who affixed four toy horse-drawn wagons to a Bills' hard hat and had them spinning around his head. The getup was in honor of ESPN broadcaster Chris Berman, who introduced Wilson, and is known for his catch phrase of, "No one circles the wagons better than the Buffalo Bills."

Many fans stopped to get Snyder's picture. He didn't mind the attention, though Snyder noted, with a laugh, "Now I know how Jessica Simpson feels."

Wilson's induction came as the NFL prepares to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the founding of the American Football League. He was a member of the so-dubbed "Foolish Club," headed by late Kansas City Chiefs owner Lamar Hunt.

Wilson provided a big laugh when recalling the first time he went to address his players in the locker room at halftime, during a game which the Bills trailed 21-7. The Bills then went on to lose 51-7, which led to coach Buster Ramsey approaching Wilson after the game.

"Buster said to me, 'Hey, Ralph, next time, talk to the other team,'" Wilson said with a laugh.

"It has been a grand ride for me, and tonight is the high point," said Wilson, who paid tribute to his daughter, Linda Bogdan, who died last spring. "My luck prevails, and closing in on 91, I still feel that I have youth on my side."

## Harrington leads Tiger by 3 at Firestone



**AKRON, Ohio (AP)**—Padraig Harrington kept pouring in birdies as he tried to separate himself from everyone else

at the Bridgestone Invitational. He arrived at the 18th green with a three-shot lead, happy with his day's work. Then he glanced at the leaderboard for the first time Saturday. Suddenly, that lead felt a little smaller.

His closest challenger was Tiger Woods, the world's No. 1 player and close to unbeatable at Firestone.

"I was surprised, yeah. I didn't know he was up there," said Harrington, who made four birdies on the back nine for a 3-under 67. "OK, he's in second place. There he is, 7-under par. There you go, three-shot lead. Is that enough? Probably not. I was trying to put as much room between me and the field. But at the end of the day, there's probably never enough room between you and Tiger."

"I know I have to play well tomorrow if I'm going to win."

Woods made a charge of his own

about an hour earlier, running off four birdies over the last six holes, for a 65 that put some life into a dreary afternoon of light rain that slightly softened Firestone.

He has never finished worse than fifth on this track, and Woods has won six times in 10 appearances, three times when trailing.

Of his 69 victories on the PGA Tour, however, Woods has only won five times when trailing by three shots or more after 54 holes. Two of those came this year, a five-shot deficit at Bay Hill and a four-shot deficit at the Memorial.

But the players he was chasing were not Harrington, a three-time major champion and the last man to beat Woods worldwide when he was atop the leaderboard going into the final round.

And while Harrington conceded that Woods chasing him changes the dynamics, the Irishman usually is up to the task.

"I realize I'm going to have a difficult day, that's for sure," said Harrington, who was at 10-under 200. "This golf course has obviously been very good

for Tiger ... so I don't think anything is going to be easy tomorrow. Probably at best, it's going to be a long, hard day and a battle. That's what I'm going to prepare myself for."

Jerry Kelly had a 69 and was five shots behind. Tim Clark, who had a one-shot lead early in the third round, also was five shots behind until he called a two-stroke penalty on himself for not replacing his ball mark on the 16th hole. He wound up with a 73, leaving him at 3 under.

Woods was happy to just have a chance.

He missed a short par putt on the eighth hole and fell six shots behind, with no indication Harrington would back up.

"I figured if I could put half a dent in that, I'd be all right," Woods said. "At least I'm there with a shot at it."

It could be a two-man show, and quite an opening act for the PGA Championship next week at Hazeltine.

Harrington has virtually disappeared this season while searching for the right swing. He only recently found the answer and finally has seen some results.

He has a 54-hole lead for the first time since the 2007 Irish Open.

Woods, already a four-time winner this year, is going after his seventh victory at the Bridgestone Invitational and his 16th victory in a World Golf Championship.

It will be the first time Woods and Harrington have played in the final pairing since the 2006 Dunlop Phoenix on the Japan Golf Tour, which featured a rare collapse by the world's No. 1 player. Woods blew a three-shot lead with six holes to play, then lost to Harrington on the second playoff hole.

Harrington also held off a hard-charging Woods at the Target World Challenge seven years ago, a year-end exhibition. Even so, for so many players scarred by losing to the world's No. 1 player, Harrington is among the few with positive recall.

"Obviously, at this stage I know it's going to be a difficult day," he said. "Just the hype of it all, everything about it, it's just going to be a lot of work tomorrow."

The hard work came in the middle of his round, when Harrington failed to take advantage of birdie chances and then had to scramble for par. One great save came with a 6-iron he punched out of the trees and onto the green at No. 9.

Another came with a superb chip out of the rough for a tap-in par at the 10th. Pars gave him the momentum to make birdies, and he knocked them in from 30 feet on the 12th, 20 feet on the 13th, and he hit the flag with his tee shot on the 15 for another birdie.

Woods began his run with an approach that spun back to 6 feet on the 13th for birdie, then picked up another birdie from 15 feet on the fringe at the 15th. His experience at Firestone really showed on the par-5 16th, where he faced a tricky shot from 90 yards to a back pin. His lob wedge hit some 8 feet short of the hole, took a hard hop past the hole, then spun back to a foot.

"Every putt I had for birdie, I made it," said Woods, who had only 23 putts. "It was the complete opposite of yesterday."

Harrington is hopeful of one more good round, making it tough for anyone—Woods included—to beat him. Then he considered what awaits next week at Hazeltine, and he changed his answer.

"Actually, I'd like five more (good) rounds—four next week, as well," he said.

The pairings for the PGA Championship were released Friday evening. Harrington and Woods will be in the same group.



CNMI

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day. Guam, which ruled the first three staging of the MAC, also had 29 medals, but collected only 11 gold. The CNMI’s Micronesian rival added 12 silver and six bronze medals.

Delivering the needed gold medals for the Commonwealth in the last day of the tournament in the Land Down Under were Ketson “Jack” Kabiriel, Lia Rangamar, Tyrone Omar, Yvonne Bennett, and Jacque Wonenberg.

Wonenberg saved one gold medal in the last day of the meet, winning the women’s long jump

bringing her total to six gold medals. The 17-year-old athlete also won in the women’s 100m hurdles, women’s triple jump, 400m hurdles, and the 4x400m and 4x100m relay runs.

Rangamar finished only second to Wonenberg in the women’s long jump, but the 15-year-old athlete redeemed herself in the javelin throw, beating Kiribati’s Kaitinamo Mwenweata and Guam’s Diana Alieto. Rangamar had a 30.15m heave in the javelin throw against Mwenweata 27.92m and Alieto’s 26.37m.

In the men’s javelin, Jesus Iguel notched a bronze medal, finishing third behind Palau’s

Dougwin Franz and Kiribati’s Raobu Tarawa.

Omar, who prevailed in the 100m run, got his second gold when he topped the men’s 200m race with a time of 23.41 seconds. He outraced two Kiribati runners, George David (23.42 seconds) and Kiakia Tekambwa (23.50 seconds).

Yvonne Bennett, who settled for a silver in the 100m race after losing in a photo-finish to Guam’s Naome Burk and placing third in the 200m, finally claimed a gold medal when she ruled the 400m run. Bennett clocked 1:03.31 to down Guam’s Naomi Blaz (1:04.36) and sister Yvette (1:07:57).

Kabiriel gave the CNMI its first gold medal in the last day of the tournament via his first-place finish in the men’s 10,000m run. Kabiriel logged 40:18.84 to beat teammate Matt Mancao (40:14.77) and Palau’s Francis Tkel (44:30.53).

Guam won only three gold medals in the last day of the tournament to drop to second place. Kiribati finished third with its 6-9-2 gold-silver-bronze tally. Guam and Kiribati were the early favorites in the MAC, while Nauru was also expected to have a strong showing, but ended in fourth place with its three gold medals, four silver, and five bronze.

The CNMI finished only fourth in the 2007 staging of the MAC in Guam after collecting only three gold, two silver, and seven bronze.

NMA president Kurt Barnes said the association is proud of the much improved performance of the 12 CNMI athletes in this year’s MAC.

“I knew that NMA would be competing against Guam for the total medal count. Kiribati is strong in specific events, but not in all events. The NMA team was strong in all events except women’s distance running. Guam is strong in the middle and long distance runs but they didn’t enter any runners in the

women’s or men’s 10,000 meters races,” Barnes said.

“The veteran athletes Yvonne, Yvette, Jack, Tyrone, and Jacque really performed well. The younger athletes held their own and came up with silver and bronze medals when needed,” he added.

Other members of the CNMI team are Trevor Ogumoro, Clayton Kenty, Douglas Dilalay, and Ryan Ichihara. Coach Elias Rangamar was with the team in Australia.

“I am sure that coach Elias is really proud of all 12 athletes who participated in the Micronesian Championships. I know I am,” Barnes said.

NMBA

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ter defeated the No. 5 pick MAFEA-Bank of Saipan in the masters division, 91-79, to advance to the semifinals and join pennant champion Bayani-Shirley’s.

Also gaining a semis entry in the open division was Northern Marianas Bartenders Association-Jam V Fashion, which pulled off a 100-93 triumph over Samahang Manggagawang Filipino-Quichocho Law Office.

A jackrabbit start allowed Cabalen to post an easy win and claimed the second semis seat.

Robert Guiang exploded for 16 points in the first quarter to give Cabalen a 32-17 lead.

Emir Abuan and Jessie Mina’s guns also went blazing in

the second quarter, combining for 17 markers to help Cabalen keep the double-digit margin at halftime, 51-39.

In was still cruise control for Cabalen in the second half, as Mina and company continued to hit their target. Mina and Guiang finished with a game-high 25 points apiece, while Abuan chipped in 17.

Danny Illahi and Alex Ocampo top-scored for MAFEA with 22 markers each.

In the second game, Lerio Pagarao drilled 13 of his 33 points in the fourth quarter to lift NMBA to a come-from-behind win.

NMBA trailed by as much as 10 midway in the fourth period, before Pagarao took charge and Bernard Aquino canned a bundle of charities to complete the team’s recovery. Aquino scored 14 points in the fourth canto and

went 7-for-8 from the foul line.

The Marvin Deocares-mentored NMBA played catch up most of the way, as nine straight points from Bonbon Cadagat in the first quarter gave SMF the upperhand early. However, NMBA picked up its pace in the closing seconds of the first period to tie the game, 18-all.

Cadagat continued to burn the hoops in the second canto, while Sonny Lerio buried three triples to bring the lead back to SMF at halftime, 42-39. Cadagat was still unstoppable in the second half, adding 15 in the third, as SMF kept the driver’s seat, 65-63.

In the fourth quarter, Lerio and Cadagat were still at the forefront of SMF’s offense and found little help from their teammates. Lerio made 15 before fouling out in the closing minutes of the fourth, while Cadagat added 11. Leo Itaas

was the only other SMF player to score in the fourth, nailing only two points.

NMBA had six players contributing on offense in the fourth. William Opone and Gil Gapor chipped in two points apiece, Jun Estolas went 2-for-2 from the foul line and Melvin Villarin drilled 3-for-4.

However, the biggest lift came from Pagarao and Aquino. Pagarao had a triple, three layups, and hit 4-for-6 from the foul line. Besides his impressive clip from the foul line, Aquino logged four two-point baskets and finished the game with 19 points, five rebounds, and two steals.

First Game

**Cabalen 91** – Guiang 25, Mina 25, Abuan 17, Tengco 14, Pacheco 6, Andales 2, Castro 2.

**MAFEA 79** – Ocampo 22,

was third (27-16-21), followed by Chuuk (6-10-12), Pohnpei (5-15-17), Kiribati (5-7-5), the Marshall Islands (3-5-12), Kosrae (3-3-2), and Yap (2-7-3).

The CNMI Swim Team anchored by Nina Mosley gave the Commonwealth the most medals with 46, while athletics contributed 15. Baseball handed the CNMI only one medal, but it was a big win as the Commonwealth sluggers pulled off an upset over rival Guam in the gold medal game, 3-2.

up putting his lap compilation to Britney Spears’ ‘Oops, I Did It Again’ to show the group. It wasn’t to embarrass him.

“It was sort of a good-natured reminder that you want to not be an error repeater.”

■ ■ ■

San Diego fined cornerback Antonio Cromartie \$2,500 for wondering on Twitter whether the Chargers’ “nasty food” has contributed to the team’s inability to reach the Super Bowl.

No surprise here: Twitter-happy Terrell Owens thinks the fine is over the top.

“I think it’s ridiculous,” Owens told reporters at Buffalo training camp.

“You know you’re going to get my honest opinion about it, and for someone to get fined \$2,500 because he tweeted that the cafeteria food is bad, then maybe they need to change it, you know?”

He has a point. You are what you tweet.

EXPRESSION

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year’s Micronesian Games, namely baseball, lawn tennis, swimming, triathlon, athletics, basketball, Micro All-Around, outrigger canoe, spearfishing, fast-pitch softball, table tennis, weightlifting, beach volleyball, indoor volleyball, and wrestling.

So far, nine sports associations in the CNMI have expressed an interest in competing in the Mi-

cronesian Games next year, but White would want to make it official by receiving a letter of interest from local sports groups.

White is also encouraging NMASA members to start fundraising for the teams they will be sending in the multi-sports meet in Palau.

“With less than a year before the Micronesian Games in Palau, it will be better for sports associations to start their fundraising activities early,” White said.

Northern Marianas Athlet-

THIS DIRTY

From Page 28

son. “It will have the people in Pittsburgh so much more emotional ... than they may have been. You’ll hear denials from the players, and you’ll hear the coaches during that week say that it doesn’t matter and it’s no big deal.

“Trust me, it will be played up in that Pittsburgh Steelers locker room that entire week and probably this entire pre-season. Because it does matter. It brings out a raw emotion in players and coaches that you don’t otherwise see.

“As much as anybody wants to deny it, it is a huge part of this game.”

■ ■ ■

Titans Coach Jeff Fisher was part of an NFL contingent that visited soldiers in Iraq this summer, and he found himself in unexpectedly hostile surround-

ings. Well, sort of.

Fisher told Fred Gaudelli, producer of NBC’s “Sunday Night Football,” that he had never seen so many swirling yellow towels, outside of Pittsburgh. Joked Gaudelli: “He told me, ‘I believe the Terrible Towel is manufactured in Iraq.’”

■ ■ ■

Ex-Broncos quarterback Jay Cutler is in Chicago. Ex-Bears quarterback Kyle Orton is in Denver. And at least one informed observer thinks they’re both better off where they are now.

“To me,” John Elway said, “Jay’s probably the most athletically gifted quarterback in the league. So I think he’ll be able to make some plays that Kyle wouldn’t have made. And it’s a better situation with Kyle being in Denver, because Kyle’s not going to be asked to make those plays in that system. They don’t like their quarterback moving around,

so I think it’s a good switch for both of them.”

Elway went on to say he thinks Denver is going to be better on offense than many people expect, as long as the Broncos can quickly absorb the system of new Coach Josh McDaniels. The Hall of Fame quarterback said he was particularly impressed by Denver’s receivers and rookie running back Knowshon Moreno, who didn’t agree to terms until Friday.

■ ■ ■

To discourage his players from making silly mistakes in practice, Cleveland Coach Eric Mangini makes them run laps around the practice field for committing penalties or mental errors. He did the same thing as coach of the New York Jets, where center Nick Mangold was a penalty-lap marathoner.

“With Nick, he was snapping the ball early all the time and ran a ton of laps,” Mangini told reporters this week. “We ended

Illahi 22, Delfin 13, Yalung 6, Lopez 4, Tiples 4, Surima 4, Garcia 4.

**Scoring by quarters:** 32-17, 51-39, 71-61, 91-79.

Second Game

**NMBA 100** – Pagarao 33,

Aquino 19, Estolas 12, Gapor 10, De Guzman 5, Villarin 5, Opone 4, Duenas 4, Umali 2.

**SMF 93** – Cadagat 45, Lerio 26, Moises 7, Mendez 6, Itaas 5, Johnson 4.

**Scoring by quarters:** 18-18, 42-38, 65-63, 100-93.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES			
MLB STANDINGS			
AMERICAN LEAGUE			
East Division			
	W	L	Pct GB
New York	68	42	.618 —
Boston	62	47	.569 5 1/2
Tampa Bay	61	49	.555 7
Toronto	52	57	.477 15 1/2
Baltimore	46	64	.418 22
Central Division			
Detroit	58	51	.532 —
Chicago	57	54	.514 2
Minnesota	54	56	.491 4 1/2
Cleveland	47	63	.427 11 1/2
Kansas City	43	67	.391 15 1/2
West Division			
Los Angeles	65	43	.602 —
Texas	61	48	.560 4 1/2
Seattle	57	53	.518 9
Oakland	48	62	.436 18
NATIONAL LEAGUE			
East Division			
Philadelphia	61	47	.565 —
Florida	57	53	.518 5
Atlanta	57	54	.514 5 1/2
New York	51	59	.464 11
Washington	39	72	.351 23 1/2
Central Division			
St. Louis	61	51	.545 —
Chicago	58	50	.537 1
Milwaukee	55	55	.500 5
Houston	54	56	.491 6
Cincinnati	47	62	.431 12 1/2
Pittsburgh	45	65	.409 15
West Division			
Los Angeles	67	44	.604 —
San Francisco	61	49	.555 5 1/2
Colorado	60	50	.545 6 1/2
Arizona	50	61	.450 17
San Diego	47	65	.420 20 1/2
Yesterday's Games			
San Francisco 4, Cincinnati 2			
Washington 5, Arizona 2			
Florida 6, Philadelphia 4			
Milwaukee 12, Houston 5			
St. Louis 5, Pittsburgh 3			
Chicago Cubs 6, Colorado 5			
San Diego 3, N.Y. Mets 1			
Atlanta 2, L.A. Dodgers 1, 10 innings			
Toronto 3, Baltimore 2, 10 innings			
N.Y. Yankees 5, Boston 0			
L.A. Angels 3, Texas 2			
Chicago White Sox 8, Cleveland 5			
Minnesota 11, Detroit 0			
Kansas City 12, Oakland 6			
Tampa Bay 10, Seattle 4			
BRIDGESTONE INVITATIONAL SCORES			
AKRON, Ohio (AP)—Scores Saturday at the Bridgestone Invitational, a \$8.5 million event at the 7,400-yard, par-70 Firestone Country Club (South Course)			
By The Associated Press			
LOCAL SCORES			
MAC MEDAL STANDINGS (Unofficial)			
Country G S B Total			
	G	S	B Total
CNMI	14	7	8 29
Guam	11	12	6 29
Kiribati	6	9	2 17
Nauru	3	4	5 12
Palau	2	2	1 5
FSM	0	0	2 2
Marshall Islands	0	0	1 1



# The Week in Sports

## CNMI athletes shine off-island

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

With local action scarce last week due to rain, the exploits of CNMI athletes in off-island tournaments became the talk of the town.

The CNMI Athletics Team left for Queensland, Australia last week to compete in the Oceania Regional Championships 2009/Micronesian Athletics Championship. The team is composed of Tyrone Omar, sisters Yvonne and Yvette Bennett, Ketson "Jack" Kabiriel, Jacque Wonenberg, Clayton Kenty, Jesus Iguel, Douglas Dillay, Lia Rangamar, Trevor Ogumoro, Matt Mancao, and Ryan Ichihara. Joining them on the trip to the Land Down Under is coach Elias Rangamar.

The Commonwealth's tracksters joined jumping, throwing, and running events at the Griffith University in Gold Coast for three days and stunned early favorites Guam and Kiribati after topping the medals standings.

The unofficial medal tally sent by

Northern Marianas Athletics president Kurt Barnes to *Saipan Tribune* shows the CNMI collecting 29 medals, 14 of which are gold. The Commonwealth bets also had seven silver and eight bronze medals.

Guam also nailed 29 medals, but claimed only 11 gold, 12 silver, and six bronze. Kiribati had a 6-9-2 gold-silver-bronze to complete the Top 3.

Other island-nations that competed in the three-day tournament were Nauru (3-4-5), Palau (2-2-1), the Federated States of Micronesia (0-0-2), and the Marshall Islands (0-0-1).

Also coming from an off-island tournament were swimmers Cooper

Graf, Rezne Wong, Kai Staal, and Shin Kimura, who spent their last two days in the 13th FINA World Championships breaking two more records.

With two more records broken, the CNMI swimmers returned to Saipan with four CNMI National records, 18 personal best times, and eight age group marks in 20 events.

Heo made a record of sort in New Caledonia after advancing to the finals in a tournament in Noumea for the second straight time.

The CNMI netter won five straight games in the 2009 Olympique Open at the Olympique Club Tennis Court, including against two seeded foes and a

local coach, before forfeiting his finals game due to an ankle injury.

Back to Saipan, only two major local events took place last week, as heavy rains hit the island for successive days.

The 14th Annual Saipan Tournament of Champions was played for only one round, instead of two, allowing Guam's Louie Sunga to claim back-to-back wins easily.

Sunga topped the Championship Flight for the second straight year, while other visitors from Korea and Guam also made their mark in the shortened TOC this year.

Kelvin "The Big Hit" Fital and Manny Chong's heavyweight fight

in the The Trench Warz X: Collision was also cut short with referee Tony D'Angelo stopping the fight at the 4:47 mark of the first round.

The 240-lb. Marianas Elite fighter beat Chong into submission with a combination of strikes to the head and body in an exclusively stand-up bout.

In the semi main event, Fital's stablemate Myron "The Natural" San Nicolas defeated Team Lockdown's Eric "The Terror" Tedtaotao via doctor's stoppage at the end of the first round.

The remaining fights at the indoor Royal Taga Hall of Saipan World Resort, saw Saipan and Guam tying at 5-all.

The 7th United Filipino Organization Inter-Organizational Basketball League is played in the outdoor JP Center Basketball Court in Garapan thus playoff games in two playing days were called off due to rain. Only last Saturday's playoff games between MAFEA-Cabalen and NMBA-SMF were played.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Matt Mancao, seen here competing in a middle distance race in a local tournament, almost quit in the 5,000m run in the Oceania Regional Championships 2009 last Tuesday, as he had difficulty adjusting to the cold weather in Australia.



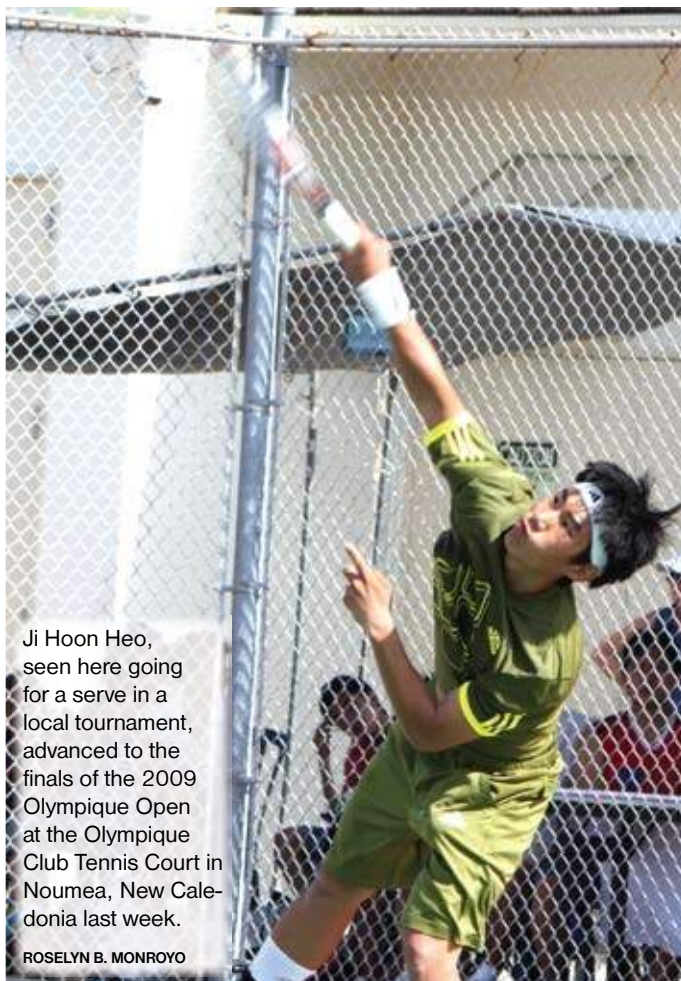
ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Jacque Wonenberg, practices a shot put drill at the Oleai Sports Complex before leaving for the tournament in Queensland, Australia.



MARK RABAGO

Kelvin "The Big Hit" Fital, right, and Manny Chong's pose for a group photo after their heavyweight fight in the The Trench Warz X: Collision.



Ji Hoon Heo, seen here going for a serve in a local tournament, advanced to the finals of the 2009 Olympique Open at the Olympique Club Tennis Court in Noumea, New Caledonia last week.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Shin Kimura, left, and Rezne Wong, right, pose with Laszlo Cseh of Hungary during a break in the 13th FINA World Championships in Italy.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Kai Staal poses with 200mIM and 400mIM world champion Ryan Lochte of the U.S.



Hideo Miyazawa looks at his target during the shortened 14th Annual Saipan Tournament of Champions at the Laolao Bay Golf Resort on Aug. 2.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO





## CNMI athletes shine off-island

With local action scarce last week due to rain, the exploits of CNMI athletes in off-island tournaments became the talk of the town.

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# Saipan Tribune Sports

## Sabathia steers Yankees over Red Sox

New York pitcher C.C. Sabathia didn't allow a runner past second base, holding the Boston Red Sox scoreless in the Yankees 5-0 win Saturday over their eternal American League rival.

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28 MONDAY, AUGUST 10, 2009

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# CNMI rules Micronesian Championships



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Yvette, left, and Yvonne Bennett, seen here training at the Oleai Sports Complex, gave the CNMI a bronze and gold medal in the 400m race during the last day of the Oceania Regional Championships 2009/Micronesian Athletics Championships at Griffith University, in Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia last Saturday.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

The CNMI Team ended Guam's reign in the Micronesian Athletics Association after topping the 2009 edition of the biennial last Saturday at the Griffith University, in Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia.

The unofficial medal tally forwarded to *Saipan Tribune* by Northern Marianas Athletics president Kurt Barnes showed the CNMI earning 14 gold medals, seven silver, and eight bronze from the three-day Oceania Regional Championships 2009/Micronesian Athletics Championships. Results posted at the Oceania Athletics website had the CNMI claiming 13 gold medals.



Whether it was 13 or 14 gold medals, still the CNMI finished on top of the medal tally, passing Guam after the Commonwealth's bets claimed five more gold medals in the last day of the tournament last Saturday.

See CNMI on Page 26

## Expression of interest for 2010 Micro Games needed



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Russ Quinn and Mili Saiki are seen here in action in a local volleyball tournament. Indoor and beach volleyball are two of the 15 sports to be played in the 2010 Micronesian Games in Palau.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER



Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association president Michael White is reminding NMASA members to submit a letter of expression of interest for the 2010 Micronesian Games.

During the NMASA monthly meeting last Thursday at the conference room of the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium, White said sports associations must submit the letter in the NMASA meeting next month. He added sports associations should also name their coach and an outline of the process for the selection of athletes.

Next year's Micronesian Games will be held in Palau from July 11 to 20. Originally, Marshall Island won the hosting rights for the quadrennial event, but the lack of facilities in Majuro prompted the Micronesia Games Council to bring the Micro Games to Palau.

Palau, which hosted the event in 1998, is offering 15 sports for next year's event.

See EXPRESSION on Page 26

## NMBA, Cabalen oust foes



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

NMBA's Bernard Aquino, center, loses the ball as he tries to escape from the defense of SMF's Jeff Pagarao, left, and Sonny Lerio, right, during their playoff game in the open division of the UFO caging last Saturday at the JP Center Basketball Court.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER



Finally, Mother Nature cooperated with the 7th United Filipino Organization Inter-Organizational Basketball League, as two games were

completed last Saturday at the JP Center Basketball Court.

After two playing days were called off due to rain, the UFO caging finally kicked off the single-elimination playoffs with one game apiece in the masters and open divisions.

The No. 4 seed Cabalen-Star Wa-

See NMBA on Page 26

By SAM FARMER

(c) 2009, Los Angeles Times



## This dirty laundry worth watching

In one month, the NFL will open the 2009 season. And NBC will be throwing in the towel.

To be specific, when Pittsburgh plays host to Tennessee on Sept. 10, it's a safe bet the network will cue up footage of a memorable moment from last season—when, in the closing minutes of a Week 16 victory over the Steelers, the Titans' LenDale White and Keith Bulluck stomped a Terrible Towel into the turf.

It was disrespectful, unprofessional, immature ...

And box-office gold.

"People tend to make fun of bulletin board material ... but I can tell you it does make a difference, even a silly thing like that," said NBC's Cris Collinsworth, who, after John Madden's retirement, will work alongside Al Michaels this season.